



**FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE**

Daily Report

Central Eurasia

**FBIS-SOV-94-227
Friday
25 November 1994**

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-227

CONTENTS

25 November 1994

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

CIS Customs Chiefs Meet, Draft Customs Alliance Accord [Russian TV]	1
CIS Border Troops Commanders Meet on 'Common Border' [PRAVDA 24 Nov]	1
ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 24 Nov	2
Press Review for 25 Nov	2

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Yeltsin Suspends Limitation Measures on Yugoslavia [INTERFAX]	4
Shumeyko Says NATO Bombing Beyond 'Reasonable Limits' [ITAR-TASS]	4
Comments on World Model, Foreign Policy [ITAR-TASS]	4
Chernomyrdin Interviewed on Results of Visit to UAE [ITAR-TASS]	4
Leaves UAE, Arrives Oman [ITAR-TASS]	5
Signs Russia-Oman Cooperation Agreement [ITAR-TASS]	5
Returns to Moscow After Ending Gulf Tour [ITAR-TASS]	6
Moscow, UAE May Jointly Develop New Fighter Plane [NTV]	6
Karasin on 'Chain Reaction' in Wake of NATO Air Strikes [ITAR-TASS]	6
Recall of Russian Peacekeepers Said Possible [INTERFAX]	6
Kozyrev Holds News Conference on Bosnia [ITAR-TASS]	6
Churkin on Possible Pullout From Yugoslavia [KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 24 Nov]	7
Russia Not Satisfied With 'Semi-Nuclear' Status for Ukraine [INTERFAX]	7
Report on Ambassador Pickering's Visit to Duma [IZVESTIYA 25 Nov]	8
Kozyrev on Republican Congressional Elections Win [INTERFAX]	8
U.S. Congress Changes Not Mandate for 'Foolhardiness' [TRUD 24 Nov]	9
Kozyrev Favors Stronger Role for CSCE [INTERFAX]	9
UN Representative Lavrov Interviewed [ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 23 Nov]	10
CIS Kurd Urges Mediation Between Turkey, Kurds [INTERFAX]	11
Minister, Iranian Ambassador Discuss Cooperation [IRNA]	12
Duma Chairman Rybkin Receives Chinese Parliamentarians [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 23 Nov]	12
Japan Postpones Repayment of Russian Debts [ITAR-TASS]	12
Delegation To Develop Trade, Economic Ties in Japan [ITAR-TASS]	12
Russia Involved in Japanese Space Rocket Project [INTERFAX]	13
Soskovets Visit to Japan Previewed [IZVESTIYA 25 Nov]	13
DPRK Delegation Promotes Economic Relations in Far East [Moscow International]	14
OPEC Hopes Russian Exports Will Be Curbed by Severe Winter [IZVESTIYA 24 Nov]	15
Gazporm Blames Ukraine for Bulgaria, Turkey Gas Shortages [INTERFAX]	15
Pacific Nuclear Pollution Conference Planned [IZVESTIYA 24 Nov]	16
U.S. Interest in Russian Rockets, Launching Complexes Noted [ITAR-TASS]	16

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Affairs

Yeltsin Continues to Reduce Staff [ITAR-TASS]	17
Zhirinovskiy Ready To Form Bloc With Communists [ITAR-TASS]	17
Rutskoy Claims To Have Widespread Support [INTERFAX]	17
Ecological 'Cedar' Movement Becomes Party [SEGODNYA 24 Nov]	17
'Life-Time' Mufti Tajuddin on Russia's Moslems [INTERFAX]	17
DPR Demands Report on Social Accord Treaty [ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 23 Nov]	18
Fedorov Urges Democrats To Quit Government [KURANTY 24 Nov]	19
Grachev Undergoes Medical Tests, Misses Duma [ITAR-TASS]	19
Shakhrai on Early Elections, Budget Compromise [INTERFAX]	19
Tsarev on LDPR 'Ruse' To Remove Rybkin [ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 23 Nov]	20

Duma Deputies Form Social-Democratic Faction [INTERFAX]	20
Unemployment Increases 80 Percent Since January [ITAR-TASS]	20
FCS Edict Grants Investigation, Security Power [SEGODNYA 24 Nov]	20
FCS Official on Migration, Smuggling [INTERFAX]	21
Human Rights Commissioner Criticizes Edict [SEGODNYA 24 Nov]	21
Prosecutor Discusses Kholodov Case, Suspects [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 24 Nov]	21
Ministry Cancels 'Airworthiness' Certificates [TRUD 24 Nov]	21
CIS Experts Analyze Air Accident Causes [IZVESTIYA 23 Nov]	22

Economic Issues

Ministry on Lower Food Production, Higher Imports [INTERFAX]	22
Yeltsin Signs Industrial Production Decree [INTERFAX]	23
Moscow Looks To Change Oil Balance Guidelines [INTERFAX]	23
Parliament on Credits To West, 1995 Budget [KOMMERSANT-DAILY 23 Nov]	23
Official on Foreign Debt, Former USSR Credits [INTERFAX]	24
Foreign Investments Increase in Stock Market [IZVESTIYA 23 Nov]	24
Chubays Opposes Cancellation of Foreign Debt [ITAR-TASS]	24
Ministries Vie To Settle Oil Export Questions [IZVESTIYA 24 Nov]	24
Yasin Announces End of Oil Price Regulation [INTERFAX]	25

Military & Space Issues

Koshelev Forwards Trade Union Appeal on 'Worry' [SEGODNYA 25 Nov]	26
Defense Fuel Debt Increases, Reserves 'Critical' [Moscow Radio]	26
Commission Works To Improve Military Payments [KOMMERSANT-DAILY 24 Nov]	26
'Cosmos-2297' Satellite Reaches Orbit [ITAR-TASS]	27
Forces Announce Successful ICBM Test Launch [ITAR-TASS]	27

Media Issues

Yeltsin Objects to State-Supported Media [ITAR-TASS]	27
Filatov Recommends 'Compatible' Team Members [ITAR-TASS]	28
Print Media Competes For Government Subsidies [OBSHCAYA GAZETA 1 Dec]	28
Russian Television on Abandonment of Merger Plan [MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMIKETS 23 Nov]	28

Federal Assembly

State Duma Urges Veto To Stop Bosnia Intervention [Radio Rossii]	29
Duma Criticizes NATO Intervention in Yugoslavia [ITAR-TASS]	30
Report on Kokoshin's Briefing on Nuclear Forces [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 23 Nov]	30
Commission Disagrees With Government on Oil Spill [INTERFAX]	30
Rybkin on Conditions for Moldova Withdrawal [INTERFAX]	31
WGF Command Said Not Involved in Irregularities [Radio Rossii]	31
Defense Committee Chairman on Duma Hearings [ITAR-TASS]	31
Lukyanov Cited on Duma's Rejection of Paramonova [INTERFAX]	31
Russia's Choice Faction To Support Draft Budget [ITAR-TASS]	32
To Support Yeltsin Electoral Bills [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 23 Nov]	32
State Duma Fails To Adopt Law on Referendum [ITAR-TASS]	32
Adopts Law on Mass Media 23 Nov [ITAR-TASS]	32

Regional Affairs

Yeltsin Returns After Visiting Estonian Border [ITAR-TASS]	33
Chechen Opposition Gunships Pound Government Troops [ITAR-TASS]	33
Further on Helicopter Attack [INTERFAX]	33
Dudayev Declares Martial Law, Curfew [Radio Rossii]	33
Leaders Blamed for Expanding 'Aggression' [INTERFAX]	34
FSK Uncovers Foreign Agents in Krasnodar [INTERFAX]	34
Urals Economic Development Conference Held [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 23 Nov]	34

Bashkiria Pipeline Accident Causes Oil Spill [ITAR-TASS]	34
Governor Cited on Nuclear Waste Disposal Problem [INTERFAX]	34
River Pollution From Nikolayev AES Investigated [Moscow Radio]	35
Funding Crisis Could Cause Nuclear Station Shutdown [Moscow TV]	35
Several Explosions Reported in Karelia [ITAR-TASS]	35
Moscow Oblast Communists Celebrate 'Widened' Influence [SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 22 Nov] ..	35
Krasnodar Mayor's Removal Based on 'Dubious' Pretext [KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 23 Nov]	36
Hunger Strikes in Yekaterinburg Over Salary Delays [INTERFAX]	37

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Kuchma Looks To 'Widespread Cooperation' [Kiev International]	38
U.S., Kiev Sign Trade, Space Agreements [UNIAN]	38
Shpek Details Plans for U.S. Economic Aid [UNIAN]	38
Russian Paper Comments on Kuchma's U.S. Visit [IZVESTIYA 23 Nov]	39
Foreign Minister Discusses Moscow-Kiev Relations [MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI 27 Nov]	40
Moroz on Ukraine-Russia 'Problems' [INTERFAX]	41
Crimeans Note 'No Logic' to Kiev Law Decision [IZVESTIYA 23 Nov]	41
Russian Duma Deputies Urge Compromise [ITAR-TASS]	42
Kiev Protests Russian State Duma Stance [UNIAN 24 Nov]	42
Moroz Calls For Expedient BSF Vessel Transfer [INTERFAX]	42
Anti-Ukrainian Feelings Increase in BSF [Kiev International]	42

National Affairs

Kuchma Issues Reform, Anti-Monopoly Edict [HOLOS UKRAYINY 22 Nov]	43
Parliament Expects 'Battle' Over Power Bill [INTELNEWS]	43
Moroz Addresses Group on Economic Reform [Kiev International]	44
Moroz on Opposition To Some Land Reform Decrees [INTERFAX]	44
Kuchma Appoints Fuel, Energy Adviser [Kiev International]	44
Kuchma Appoints Security Service Official [HOLOS UKRAYINY 22 Nov]	44
General Fedin Undertakes BSF Appointment [UNIAN]	44
Cabinet Appoints Union Negotiation Team [INTELNEWS]	44

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Gas Supply Resumes Under 'Strict Conditions' [Minsk Radio]	46
Government Imposes Limits on Electricity [Minsk Radio]	46
U.S. Studies Petrochemical Plant Project [Minsk Radio]	46
IMF Reconsiders Assistance [Minsk Radio]	46
Lukashenka on 'Crisis of Power,' IMF Credit Denial [INTERFAX]	46
Minister Views Foreign Economic Activities [RESPUBLIKA 17 Nov]	47
Ministry Issues Directive on Short-Term Bonds [Minsk Radio]	50
Lukashenka Meets With Trade Union Activists [Minsk Radio]	50
Army on Structure Details, Kastenka Profiled [BELAPAN]	51

Moldova

New Union Looks To Unify Moldovan Ukrainians [BASAPRESS]	53
Ministry Denies Involvement at Vulcanesti [INFOTAG]	53
Chisinau Uses CSCE Peacemakers in Dniester [ITAR-TASS]	53
General To Visit Troops, Discuss Withdrawal [Moscow Radio]	54

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Uranium Deal With United States Confirmed [ITAR-TASS]	55
Russia Said Aware of Uranium Sale [INTERFAX]	55
Russian-Kazakh Oil Talks Held in Almaty [PANORAMA 19 Nov]	55
Refinery Replaces Russian Oil With Kazakh [Almaty Radio]	55
Iran Ready To Allow Transit of Kazakh Oil [Almaty Radio]	56
Parliamentary Delegation Departs for Iran, Pakistan [Almaty Radio]	56
EBRD Delegation Considers Draft Assistance Programs [KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA 19 Nov]	56
Court Dismisses Case Against Russian Journalist [KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA 19 Nov]	56
Licenses Required to Bury Radioactive Waste [PANORAMA 19 Nov]	57

Kyrgyzstan

EBRD Funds Telecommunications Modernization [Bishkek Radio]	57
Prime Minister Meets ICO Secretary General [ITAR-TASS]	57
Russian Units Include Military Intelligence [VECHERNIY BISHKEK 21 Nov]	57
Osh Region Has 1,900 Refugees From Tajikistan [EKHO OSHA 12 Nov]	58
Akayev Says Agricultural Reforms Crucial [Bishkek Radio]	58

Tajikistan

Agreement With China on Joint Pharmaceutical Venture [Dushanbe Radio]	59
Action Urged After Journalist's Murder [Dushanbe Radio]	59
Defense Ministry Official Fails in Hijack Attempt [ITAR-TASS]	59
FCS Sees Hijacking Attempt as 'Hooliganism' [INTERFAX]	59
Rakhmanov Welcomes Weapons Surrender by People's Front [INTERFAX]	60
Meeting Held To Accelerate Economic Transformations [Dushanbe Radio]	60

Turkmenistan

President Returns After 'Triumphant' European Tour [TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA 22 Nov]	60
UN Mission Opens in Ashgabat [TURKMENISTAN 11 Nov]	61
New Bank Plans Oil Industry Investments [TURKMENISTAN 10 Nov]	61

Uzbekistan

President Karimov Receives EBRD Delegation [Tashkent TV]	62
Meets With Finance Minister [NARODNOYE SLOVO 23 Nov]	62
EBRD To Fund Upgrades [INTERFAX]	62
Najibollah-led Afghan Delegation Received [Kabul Radio]	63
Natural Gas Supply Stopped for Nonpayment [INTERFAX]	63
Tashkent Said To Block Georgian Gas Supplies [Moscow TV]	63
Start of Limited Land Privatization Decreed [Tashkent TV]	63
Edict Issued on Land Sales [NARODNOYE SLOVO 25 Nov]	63

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Comments on Ties [Yerevan International]	65
Vice President Receives Romanian Health Minister [Yerevan International]	65
Exchange of POW's With Azerbaijan Delayed [ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN]	65
Azerbaijan Reportedly Fires on Armenian Towns [Yerevan Radio]	65
Aid Grain Shared With Starving Georgia [SAKINFORM]	65

Azerbaijan

IMF Postpones Signing Credit Agreement [INTERFAX]	66
Appeal to World Community Over Plight of Refugees [ITAR-TASS]	66
Baku Conference on Human Rights, Refugees Concludes [TURAN]	66
Memorandum Signed With Norway on Oil, Gas Extraction [INTERFAX]	67
Foreign Minister Discusses Oil With Norwegian Delegation [TURAN]	67
Diplomatic Relations With Afghanistan Established [Baku Radio]	67
Aliyev, Ter-Petrosyan To Meet in Moscow Next Week [INTERFAX]	67

Georgia

Greek Government Delegation To Meet Dignitaries [SNARK]	68
Niotis Meets Shevardnadze [SNARK]	68
Greece Allots \$50 Million Loan [CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY]	68
PRAVDA Version of Abkhaz Peace Talks Disputed [SAKINFORM]	69
Ceding Territory in Ethnic Conflicts Ruled Out [CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY]	69
Preparations For War With Abkhazia Urged [INTERFAX]	69
Mobile Police Will Shoot to Kill in New Crackdown [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 24 Nov]	69
Budget Ratified for Fourth Quarter of 1994 [SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA 16 Nov]	69
'Tough' Power Supply Restrictions Introduced [SNARK]	70
Industry, Food Situation Near Catastrophe [NTV]	70

BALTIC STATES

Estonia

Prime Minister Returns From Crime Conference [ETA]	71
Premier Met With Russian, Other Ministers [Tallinn Radio]	71
Foreign Ministry Statement on Yeltsin's Border Visit [Tallinn Radio]	71
Luik: Russia Unwilling To Settle Dispute [Riga Radio]	71
Kozyrev: Border 'Will Remain Unchanged' [BNS]	72
Russia Interested in Privatized Metal Processing Plant [ETA]	72
Tallinn Reports Landing of Hijacked Russian Aircraft [Tallinn Radio]	72
Hijackers Demand Flight to Denmark [ITAR-TASS]	72
Russian Antiterrorist Units To Arrive [Tallinn Radio]	73
Estonia in Charge of Situation [ITAR-TASS]	73
Hijackers Release Passengers [ITAR-TASS]	73
Two Hijackers Surrender [Tallinn Radio]	73
Security Search on Aircraft [Tallinn Radio]	73
Foreign Minister: Hijacking Resolution Affirms Security [ETA]	73
Russian Envoy Grateful For Hijack Landing [Tallinn Radio]	74

Latvia

Premier Assesses Visit to Sweden [Riga Radio]	74
Baltic Foreign Ministers Statement on EU, Borders [Riga Radio]	74
Spokesman Rebuts Yeltsin Statement on 'Forced Settlers' [BNS]	75
Accords Ratified on Russian Army Withdrawal [Riga Radio]	75
Saeima Passes Law on State Defense [Riga Radio]	75

Lithuania

Norway Supports Lithuania's Admission to EU [Vilnius International]	75
---	----

CIS Customs Chiefs Meet, Draft Customs Alliance Accord

LD2311143694 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 23 Nov 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] A routine session of the council of heads of customs services of the CIS countries is taking place in Moscow today.

[D. Maslennikov] This CIS body has drafted an agreement on a customs alliance and the principles of customs legislation of the Commonwealth countries. In the view of participants in today's conference, a unified document needed to be created to consolidate the main principles of customs work within the framework of the CIS. The document has defined the main principles of legislation in the field, the status and functions of customs bodies, has examined all issues relating to the movement of goods and means of transport across the borders of states and outlined custom regimes. The law-enforcement aspect of the document which defines customs bodies as investigative bodies also merits attention as it will help in fighting smuggling.

[V. Meshcheryakov, deputy chairman of the State Customs Committee of the Russian Federation] Over what is almost the whole of 1994, goods have been seized at crossing points worth a total of about 130 billion rubles [R]. That is one thing. Second, we have also seized, or rather prevented the export of goods which appeared through some breach of the law worth a total of nearly R160 billion. There have been and I believe there will be other cases of, say, the smuggling of a container of caesium. However, we discussed these problems with our colleagues from European states. They said that work needs to be done in this area and indeed both they and we are working on it, but they also said that such cases should not be overdramatized.

CIS Border Troops Commanders Meet on 'Common Border'

MM2411142394 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Nov 94 p 1

[Report by Viktor Kharlamov: "One Border Common To All. Meeting of CIS Border Troops Commanders Held in Moscow"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The session of the Council of CIS Border Troops Commanders, which ended the other day in Moscow, is yet another step along the road to a unified system of protection for the Commonwealth's external borders. And as early as the beginning of next year a treaty on guarding the external border, which will probably become a common border for all the CIS countries, will be presented to heads of state to examine and then sign.

At the end of the session I asked some of its participants to give mini-interviews to PRAVDA. The question was as follows:

"Why were border guards the first to reach mutual understanding and start along the path of integration—rather than politicians, the Armed Forces, or even law-enforcement organs?"

This is how they replied.

Bolat Zakiyev, commander of the Republic of Kazakhstan Border Troops:

"It is simpler and more profitable to ensure our own security in collaboration. After all, the security of each of our states depends on the reliability of the Commonwealth's external border."

Anarbek Bakayev, chairman of the Republic of Kazakhstan State Committee for National Security:

"We view our external borders as the common borders of the Commonwealth. So that we, at least, have no doubts as to the need for integration. I hope that the process begun by the border guards will be supported by other state and power structures."

Valeriy Chkhaidze, chairman of the Republic of Georgia Department for State Border Security:

"Not all the newly-formed states have the capability or the means to reliably secure their borders. This compels us to pool our efforts to ensure our own security on our external borders. Thus we are forced to integrate by the very realities of life."

Vasiliy Morkovkin, commander of the Republic of Belarus Border Troops:

"There is an illegal transit of nonferrous and rare metals to third countries through Belarus, as the Commonwealth's western gate. This is economically ruinous for states such as Russia and Kazakhstan, and at the same time it exacerbates the crime situation in our republic. The same can be said of the illegal transit of weapons and drugs. Thus we simply cannot do without collaboration and coordinated actions."

Andrey Nikolayev, commander in chief of the Russian Federation Border Troops:

"The choice is as follows: Either each state of the Commonwealth guards all its borders all the way along its perimeter, spending colossal resources on equipping new borders, or it takes the course of trust and mutual commitments, leaving internal borders open and "transparent" and guarding the Commonwealth's borders in coordination and collaboration with the other CIS states. We have taken the second course, based on logic and common sense."

But the concept of the "border" does not just imply Border Troops. It also means customs controls, which ensure economic security, immigration control, counter-intelligence, and phytosanitary services. In short, the whole system.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 24 Nov
LD2411071294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0659
GMT 24 Nov 94

[“Press Review”—ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 24 TASS—
The Russian press carries reports on President Boris
Yeltsin's trip to Pskov region.

ROSSIISKAYA GAZETA quotes the president as saying
that the purpose of his trip was to see for himself how the
Russian-Estonian border has been equipped.

The president believes, the newspaper writes, that the
Russian-Estonian border is not quite a place where
everything is all right. But “this border has been, is and
will remain Russian one. We shall not cede an inch of
land under any circumstances whoever would lay claim
to it”.

The border with Estonia was sealed at the Helsinki
conference and, therefore, there can be no question of
any revision of it, the newspaper states.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA analyses the grain market
situation. The newspaper believes that next year may
become a year of grain shortages. A disastrous state of
affairs in the procurement of grain has developed in the
country, which is fraught with serious consequences for
urban dwellers.

The government, the newspaper maintains, has taken up
an ambiguous stand over the matter—not to buy nation-
ally-produced grain and not to import any. This indi-
cates that the urban population may remain without
bread or, to be more exact, bread prices will soar.

IZVESTIYA comments on foreign trade liberalisation
problem, export quotas and licenses for energy
resources, in particular.

The newspaper believes that this is a principled issue
connected with a continuation of market-oriented
reforms. The newspaper points to inconsistency of the
authorities' policy in this respect.

“The present flare-up of government discussion on the
export of oil is accounted for by at least two reasons:
firstly, the positions of the liberals in the government
have grown substantially stronger and, secondly, which
may be most importantly, that Russia expects to get
about 7,500 million U.S. dollars from international
financial organisations shortly.”

ROSSIISKIYE VESTI on a country-wide discussion of a
contemplated merger of two Russian television net-
works. The newspaper points out that “political and
mercantile considerations have come to prevail in the
discussion”.

“It strikes the eye that many of those who commented on
the intention expressed by the president to finally decide

the future of state-run television networks pursue pri-
marily their own private goals, not the main thing that
should have been discussed first—the interests of tele-
viewers”.

PRAVDA carries an interview with agrarian party leader
Mikhail Lapshin, who analyses the political situation in
the country in the light of his party's policy.

“Sooner or later the great peasant country will have a
president who would represent the agrarian sector.
Russia has got the right to such a leader through suf-
fering, and peasantry as a political force is prepared to
nominate him”, Lapshin said.

NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA (New Daily
Newspaper) on the cost of the repair of government and
parliament buildings.

The repair of the former residence of the parliament and
the state planning committee building which now houses
the state duma has cost 1,000 million U.S. dollars, a
competent source in the government told the newspaper.

The newspaper has estimated that the government and
parliament buildings repair cost was tantamount to that
of 200 houses for 120,000 people. “This would suffice to
resolve the housing problem of officers who are being
withdrawn from the Baltics,” the newspaper said.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA carries an article by former
Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev who analyses the
U.S. policy with regard to Cuba. He believes that it is
time for the Americans to change their policy with regard
to the freedom island.

Gorbachev believes that the U.S. got an opportunity to
bring Fidel Castro to the negotiating table. Nevertheless,
the U.S. does not do that, which in itself is an evidence
of a striking political short-sightedness of the Wash-
ington administration, Gorbachev emphasises.

“In this case, just as in relations with new democracies in
Central Europe and with Russia, the U.S. continues to
cling tenaciously to Cold-War methods, demonstrating
its proud role and its haughtily assumed monopoly—to
be the spokesman for the aspirations of the free world”.

Press Review for 25 Nov

LD2511083694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0746
GMT 25 Nov 94

[“Press Review”—ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 25 TASS—
A forecast for the socio-economic development of the
Russian Federation in 1995, the deterioration of the
criminogenic situation in the country and the covert
operation codenamed Sapphire to remove 600 kilo-
grammes of highly enriched uranium from Kazakhstan
to the United States are the main topics in today's
Moscow-based newspapers.

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI runs excerpts from the forecast for the socio-economic development of the Russian Federation in 1995, prepared by the Russian Ministry of economics for an all-Russia economic conference opening in the Kremlin on Saturday.

The document says in particular: "We are faced with a difficult choice. The government considers it the only reasonable option in the obtaining situation to come forward with an active strategy for macroeconomic stabilisation and the earliest economic recovery."

"The main concept is to adopt a hard-and-fast budget which would accurately reflect possibilities for the mobilisation of revenue with due regard for the lessons of the current year: reduce budget deficit down to approximately eight per cent of gross domestic product, to cover the budget deficit exclusively from non-inflationary sources, i.e. The sale of government securities and borrowings from abroad".

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI reports that according to the Russian Ministry of Labour, the incomes of 30.5 million citizens in Russia in foreign currency equivalent is approximately 42 dollars a month, with 20.5 per cent of people in Russia subsisting on such funds.

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA gives data on a deterioration of the criminogenic situation in the country. Referring to interior ministry data, the newspaper reports that the growth of crime in Russia doubled over the past four years and that not less than 120,000 crimes are recorded every month.

There were 2.8 million crimes last year, with 29,200 of them being wilful murders. Criminal groups were in control of up to 50,000 enterpreneural entities and more than 400 banks and ran thousands of enterprises with the use of criminally-gotten capital. The share of economic crimes, of which 15 were committed every month, grew by more than 16 per cent within the year, the newspaper noted.

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA comments on a covert operation codenamed Sapphire to transfer 600 kg from Kazakhstan to the United States.

Under existing arrangements between Moscow and ex-Soviet republics, on the territories of which there remain

nuclear materials of military purpose following the break-up of the Soviet Union, the materials should be transferred to Russia to be processed at special plants after an appropriate treatment into fuel for nuclear power stations.

IZVESTIYA on the uranium deal between Kazakhstan and the U.S.:

"The main piquant thing is not even in Kazakhstan people's hard bargaining for every milligramme of the material which they did not need at all. The peculiarity which makes this story almost a Hollywood-style one is that this almost ownerless uranium was found by Americans, not by Kazakhstan people.

IZVESTIYA, in another article on the same subject, writes that "a Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman in Moscow told us that Russia was informed in advance by the American side about this purchase of uranium and that there was an exchange of views on that score. Moscow expressed confidence that the U.S. would ensure a peaceful use of the material and would place it under IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] safeguards. Washington promised to do everything note to shake this confidence."

TRUD carries an interview with Aman Tuleyev, deputy to the Federation Council of Russia, who dwelt mainly on the position of coalminers.

Touching upon the problems of inter-ethnic relations, Tuleyev emphasised that "ordinary people in Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Belarus (I do not mention other republics so far) obviously gravitate towards closer relations with Russia, and the for many reasons which include centuries-old mutual interests, inter-ethnic marriages, and the neighbouring peoples' cultural and economic relations which closely intertwined."

"I am confident that sooner or later the peoples of at least these four countries will make politicians realise that none of ordinary people need the 'transparent' borders between them. The borders hamper contacts, and, which is the main thing, hinder efforts to get out of the common economic crisis. A politician who would not heed this voice of the people is doomed by history to oblivion and curse," Tuleyev said.

Yeltsin Suspends Limitation Measures on Yugoslavia*LD2311174594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1534 GMT 23 Nov 94*

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov and others]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The president's press service announced on Wednesday that Yeltsin had passed a directive documenting the suspension of a number of limitation measures in relation to Yugoslavia.

For instance, the ban has been lifted on the Russian planes' flights to Belgrade in accordance with the U.N. Security Council's Resolution No. 943 of September 23, 1994.

"Yeltsin has brought the Russian laws in line with the international law," a high-ranking Russian diplomat told Interfax.

He said that the ban on the flights of Russian planes to Belgrade and other limitations were lifted back on October 5, because Resolution No. 943 went into effect immediately.

Shumeyko Says NATO Bombing Beyond 'Reasonable Limits'*LD2511095894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0803 GMT 25 Nov 94*

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Sergey Sereda]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lisbon November 25 TASS—Russian Federation Council Speaker Vladimir Shumeyko believes the latest NATO air strikes on Bosnian Serbs are an excessively severe measure and insists that the conflict in Bosnia should be settled only by peaceful means.

"We shall support a compromise by all means and will remember that the means should be 99 percent peaceful", he told Portuguese lawmakers during a meeting on Thursday.

The NATO bombings "are a measure which is beyond the necessary reasonable limits. I can say that it is an excessive measure", the chairman of the upper chamber of the Russian parliament said.

He added that it is inadmissible to side with any party involved in the Bosnian conflict and warned that the lifting of the arms embargo on Bosnian Muslims can flare up the conflict as weapons deliveries allow to earn enormous profits.

"Military assistance to any of the conflicting parties is inadmissible. If there is an embargo it should be strictly

observed, if it is lifted it should be lifted from everybody", Shumeyko said and stressed that the lifting of the embargo would result "in direct material profits earned on the conflict".

"Russia proceeds from the principle foreign policy position that it is categorically inadmissible to side with any of the conflicting parties", he stressed.

Comments on World Model, Foreign Policy*LD2511095294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1750 GMT 24 Nov 94*

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Sergey Sereda]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Lisbon, 24 Nov— A conversation today between members of the Portuguese parliamentary commission on foreign affairs and a delegation from Russia's Federation Council lasted twice as long as planned. The delegation, which is here on an official visit, is led by Federation Council Speaker Vladimir Shumeyko. [passage omitted]

In the discussion on international topics, Vladimir Shumeyko said that Russia supports the multipolar model of the world, replacing the bipolar model which ceased to exist when the Soviet Union disintegrated. Russia will never agree with the unipolar model of the world in which the United States is interested. Russia is currently making a general reassessment of its relations with many countries, rejecting the division of the world into "first", "second" and "third". [passage omitted]

The Portuguese MP's asked a series of questions linked with the Yugoslav conflict. Russia's position, Vladimir Shumeyko said, is based on the principal postulate of our country's foreign policy: in a conflict in which two or more sides are taking part, it is categorically wrong to take the side of any one of them. We will support efforts to find a compromise by any means, bearing in mind that the means must be 99 percent peaceful. This makes military aid to one of the conflicting sides all the more unacceptable. If there is an embargo, then it should be strictly implemented, and if it is lifted, then it should be lifted on all sides. The lifting of an embargo on arms trading leads to a sharp rise in arms prices and the derivation of direct material profit from the conflict. As for the recent bombings, it should be understood that this measure exceeds necessary and reasonable limits. Such measures can be described as redundant.

Chernomyrdin Interviewed on Results of Visit to UAE*LD2311143894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1329 GMT 23 Nov 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Gennadiy Yezhov and Vyacheslav Anchikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Abu Dhabi November 23 TASS—"I am satisfied with the results of the visit to the

United Arab Emirates. The talks conducted by the Russian delegation here were constructive and useful," Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said in an interview with the local WAM news agency on Wednesday.

"We discussed an entire range of various aspects of cooperation at the talks with UAE Deputy Prime Minister [and President] Shaykh Sultan Bin-Zayid al Nuhayyan and meetings with Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Zayid al Nuhayyan and other leaders of the country.

"I'd like to state that we met understanding on all problems under discussion," the Russian Cabinet head said.

"In actual fact," the premier noted, "we only open the UAE for ourselves, and this visit should pave grounds for the start of fruitful cooperation between the two states."

In this connection, Chernomyrdin expressed confidence that the new agreement on trade, economic and scientific cooperation between Russia and the UAE will be signed in the near future.

"We are also preparing for signing an agreement to protect mutual investments, to avoid double taxation and other documents," he continued.

The premier stressed that Russia offers foreign partners good possibilities to establish joint ventures and to participate in financing various projects, especially if one takes into account the on-going conversion of the munitions industry in Russia.

"Russia has rich experience in the oil and gas industries," he added. All this can become spheres of bilateral cooperation. Chernomyrdin called on UAE businessmen to go on a fact-finding visit to Russia and to learn possibilities opening for them.

Speaking about the discussion of foreign policy issues with the UAE leaders, including the situation in the Gulf, the premier stressed that economic cooperation between states is a major factor for achieving stability, including in this region.

In conclusion, Chernomyrdin shared his impression of what he saw in Abu Dhabi. What has been done in this country only for 20 years, he said, evokes fascination, and the great merit for this goes to UAE President Shaykh Zayid bin-Sultan al Nuhayyan.

Leaves UAE, Arrives Oman

LD2311201194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1846 GMT 23 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Anchikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Abu Dhabi November 23 TASS—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin on Wednesday wound up his two-day official visit to the

United Arab Emirates (UAE) and left for Oman, the last point of his first tour of the Arab countries in the Gulf area. He was seen off at the Abu Dhabi airport by UAE Deputy Prime Minister Sultan Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan.

On the last day of his visit to the UAE, Chernomyrdin met representatives of the country's business community at the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He also visited a sea oil-producing plant.

Members of the Russian premier's delegation also had a number of meetings on Wednesday. Artur Chilingarov, deputy speaker of the state Duma, met Al-Haj Bin Abdallah Al-Mukhairebi, speaker of the UAE Federal National Council (parliament). Oleg Davydov, Russian deputy prime minister and minister for foreign economic relations, met UAE Economic and Trade Minister Sa'id Ghabbash and Deputy Finance Minister Muhammad Halfan Harbash. Russian Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Shafraanik met the management of a national oil company. President of the Stolichniy Bank Aleksandr Smolenskiy met the manager of the UAE central bank Sultan Nasir Al-Suveidi.

Moscow ITAR-TASS in Russian at 1846 GMT on 23 November adds the following: "Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the government of the Russian Federation, who is visiting countries of the Persian Gulf, arrived in the Sultanate of Oman on an official visit today. At the airport at Sib he was met by Qays 'Abd-al-Mun'im al-Zawawi, deputy prime minister for economic and financial affairs.

"During the course of his brief visit to Oman the head of the Russian government will have talks with the Sultan of Oman Qabus Bin-Sa'id and other officials on questions of the development of bilateral relations, and will sign an inter-governmental agreement on trade and economic and technical cooperation between the two countries."

Signs Russia-Oman Cooperation Agreement

LD2411161794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1444 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Gennadiy Ezhov and Vyacheslav Anchikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Muscat November 24 TASS—Russia and Oman signed today a trade, economic and technical cooperation agreement to cover such diverse areas as industry, minerals, energy, construction and agriculture. The agreement was signed by Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and Omani Deputy Prime Minister for Financial and Economic Affairs Qays 'Abd-al-Munim al-Zawawi.

Chernomyrdin also met today the Omani leader, Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id, in his camp residence near the city of Nazwah. On agenda were the situation in the Gulf, peace process in Mideast, and prospects for the Omani-Russian relations development.

The Russian prime minister, who is on a tour of Gulf Arab states, has already visited the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia to enter into pacts on trade and investment.

Returns to Moscow After Ending Gulf Tour

LD2511092094 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian* 2310 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Moscow, 25 Nov—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin arrived in Moscow today after ending his tour of Arabic countries of the Persian Gulf. [passage omitted]

Moscow, UAE May Jointly Develop New Fighter Plane

LD2311190494 Moscow *NTV in Russian* 1600 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Russia has offered to the UAE participation in research and development of a new multipurpose fighter plane, the SU-37. This question was discussed at Abu-Dhabi negotiations between Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin and the Emirates' leaders. It has been said in Chernomyrdin's entourage that the Emirates are also interested in Russian air defense systems, T-80 tanks, and SU-37 airplanes.

Karasin on 'Chain Reaction' in Wake of NATO Air Strikes

LD2311133694 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 1317 GMT 23 Nov 94

[By *ITAR-TASS* diplomatic correspondent Andrey Shtorkh]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 23 TASS—Russia expressed concern over a new air strike by NATO on a Serb missile base in western Bosnia on Wednesday.

"The new alarming reports from Bosnia caused our serious concern", spokesman of the Russian Foreign Ministry Grigoriy Karasin told TASS.

He added that details of the new air strike and of the general military activities in Bosnia are yet to be attentively analysed. "However, the danger of a chain reaction of power methods is already clear and, according to our conviction, they can result in nothing, but a continuation of the bloodshed".

"We continue to stand for boosting political and diplomatic efforts in the Bosnian settlement", Karasin said and stressed that Russia would continue to work in that direction both in the UN Security Council and in the international Contact Group on Bosnia, as well as on a bilateral basis.

Recall of Russian Peacekeepers Said Possible

LD2311171394 Moscow *INTERFAX in English* 1702 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russia is "extremely concerned" about the emerging trend toward resolving

Bosnian settlement issues exclusively by force, a high-ranking member of Russia's Foreign Ministry told *INTERFAX* on Wednesday in comments on the report concerning another NATO air strike on Bosnian Serbs' positions in the area of Otok north-east of Bihac.

"There is no doubt that the Bosnian Serbs, who had fired at the NATO planes engaged in patrolling the 'no fly zone', provoked the air strike. However another thing is noteworthy: the international community is gradually sliding toward supporting militarily only one of the parties involved in the conflict," he pointed out.

According to the diplomat, this may lead to the start of a full-scale war in the Balkans. "The use of force may provoke a tough reaction both from the Bosnian Serbs and from Belgrade, which has restrained itself so far, but can lose control over itself some time," he said.

As the diplomat said, under the circumstances Russia may decide to recall its peacekeepers from the former Yugoslavia.

"We are no suicides, and we shall not sacrifice our people. It would be a crime against them," he stressed.

The diplomat declined to say when the decision to recall Russian peacekeepers will be taken. "If at its meeting to be held on the level of foreign ministers in Brussels on December 2 the Contact Group fails to curb the trend toward resolving all issues by force, Moscow will take its decision promptly. It would be deadly to delay it," he concluded.

Kozyrev Holds News Conference on Bosnia

LD2411152794 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian* 1427 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By *ITAR-TASS* diplomatic correspondents Andrey Serov and Andrey Shtorkh]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 24 November—Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation Andrey Kozyrev has warned about the danger of "third forces" being drawn into the Bosnian conflict. At a meeting with journalists today he voiced the opinion that the Muslim side was deliberately provoking the Serbs in the hope of NATO strikes at the latter in response.

"The Muslim side conducted the latest offensive obviously calculating that it would succeed in dragging NATO, outside third forces, into the conflict on its side, persuade people to lift the embargo on deliveries of arms and, most important of course, secure air strikes," the head of the Russian foreign policy department said.

At the same time, he noted, the main reason for the continuing confrontation is the Bosnian Serbs' not agreeing to accept the peace settlement plan proposed by the "contact group."

The Bosnian and Krajina Serbs, A.Kozyrev indicated, are responding without restraint to the Muslims' provocations, going outside "the reasonable framework of response" and "stepping every time on the same rakes." As a result, the minister said, there is at present a danger of "a third force" being drawn into the armed forces. The "unrestrained escalation" now taking place had become an object of the concern of Russian diplomacy.

"We would like to halt the logic of the war, and connected with this are our initiatives in the 'Contact Group', a session of which at the level of foreign ministers will be held at the beginning of December," the minister said. "I hope that the meeting of the 'Contact Group' will send a clear signal that the international community is not for escalation of military confrontation but for a return to political methods."

Replying to an ITAR-TASS correspondent's question, the minister said that at this meeting it is planned to discuss a number of proposals, conditionally pooled together under the title 'Plan B'. The idea, he said, is to present, in addition to the 'Geneva package', a second plan which would exist parallel to the first one. According to the authors of 'Plan B', it is due to help get out of the deadlock which was formed following the Bosnian Serbs' refusal to adopt the 'Geneva package'. This is an attempt to find the 'next best' way around it, to begin tackling other problems, and then to go back to solving the central question. "We believe that 'Plan B' contains the basis for discussion; it has elements worthy of attention and elements which give rise to very serious doubts", A.Kozyrev said.

Churkin on Possible Pullout From Yugoslavia

MM2311200794 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 24 Nov 94 p 1

[Interview with Vitaliy Churkin, Russian ambassador to Brussels, by Ravil Zaripov under "Firsthand" rubric; date, place not given: "Russian 'Blue Helmets' May Leave Former Yugoslavia, Vitaliy Churkin Told Us"—first paragraph is introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] We asked Vitaliy Churkin, formerly the Russian president's special representative for the settlement of the Yugoslav crisis, who recently took up the post of Russian ambassador to Brussels, to comment on the situation that has developed since the NATO military action in Serb Krajina.

[Churkin] I would like to remind you that NATO has a very limited remit in Bosnia and operates in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions. You can argue about the details but, strictly speaking, picking bones with NATO does not work today since the UN Security Council did give authorization. The NATO Council adopted the corresponding decisions and immediately briefed our embassy on this as the embassy of a permanent Security Council member country and one of the main participants in the settlement of the conflict.

[Zaripov] We have information that the United States intends to train Bosnian troops and that even now specialists are at work there. What then is the point of the Contact Group's activity?

[Churkin] A tremendous U.S.-European and even intra-NATO furor has blown up over this here in Brussels. But at the moment the Americans are categorically denying that anything is being done in this area. If the report is confirmed, this will not only undermine NATO unity but the Contact Group as well.

[Zaripov] How do you assess the activity of the UN forces? Maybe it would be better to send the "blue helmets" home and give the warring parties themselves the opportunity to achieve reconciliation?

[Churkin] Officially the UN mission is not to reconcile the sides but to provide the civilian population with humanitarian aid. At this moment withdrawing the UN troops would not be the best option. If it does all boil down to the sides' unwillingness to make peace and insisting on the unchecked escalation of the conflict then of course the troops should leave. But in that case the conflicting parties and those who are helping them to continue the war by advocating the lifting of the embargo on arms shipments must bear the responsibility for everything.

[Zaripov] If the United States does nonetheless unilaterally lift the embargo on arms shipments to the Muslims, what should Russia's response be, in your view?

[Churkin] In this case we should withdraw our UN battalion. And Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has stated that publicly. The British and French are ready to act similarly with their contingents. I see this as another component of the European countries' joint stance.

Russia Not Satisfied With 'Semi-Nuclear' Status for Ukraine

LD2411163994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1421
GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russia and its Western partners in "the nuclear club", the United States and Great Britain, will grant security guarantees to Ukraine only in the event that the ratification documents on Ukraine joining the NPT Treaty do not contain "reservations or ambiguities," a top ranking official from the Russian Foreign Ministry said in an interview with Interfax on Thursday [24 November].

In his words, the resolution of Ukraine's Supreme Soviet on Ukraine's joining the NPT gives rise to many questions. "It is not clear in what status, of a non-nuclear or as a kind of "semi-nuclear" power, Ukraine will join the NPT," the diplomat said.

He underlined that neither Russia nor its Western partners will be satisfied with Ukraine's "semi-nuclear

status." "If we agree to this we will legalize the possession of the third largest number of nuclear warheads after Russia and the United States," he said.

Nevertheless, the diplomat hopes for "state wisdom" from Kiev, because it is "in its interests to remove all ambiguous and unclear wordings." "In this case Ukraine can be granted guarantees, in Budapest on December 5-6, where the presidents of the Russian Federation, United States, Ukraine and British Prime Minister are to meet in the framework of the CSCE summit," he said.

Report on Ambassador Pickering's Visit to Duma

*MM2511093794 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
25 Nov 94 p 5*

[Report by Sergey Chugayev: "U.S. Ambassador Promises To Improve Visa Service for Russian Citizens"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Consular Department of the U.S. Embassy in Russia plans to make substantial changes to its activity with a view to speeding up and simplifying the procedure for issuing visas to Russian citizens wishing to visit the United States. In particular, it is intended to employ the practice of written responses to questions instead of the mandatory interview with Consular Service personnel. U.S. Ambassador to Russia Pickering told your IZVESTIYA correspondent this following a conversation that he had at the State Duma with S. Yushenkov, chairman of the Duma Defense Committee.

Mr. Pickering also announced plans to expand the Consulate's premises in the hope that Russians waiting for visas will not freeze while waiting in line on the street. The Embassy has met with support from Moscow Mayor Yu. Luzhkov in resolving this problem, but everything is being held up by the sluggishness of the Russian Administration for Servicing the Diplomatic Corps, the ambassador said.

A number of recent moves by leading Russian parliamentarians in protest at the actions of the U.S. Consular Service in Moscow were the reason for the head of the U.S. Embassy's visit to the Duma. Thus, after P. Grigorenko, the son of the well-known rights defender, who wanted to visit his sick mother, was denied a visa, Human Rights Commissioner S. Kovalev said that he no longer wants to visit the United States. His example was soon followed by V. Lukin, chairman of the Duma Committee for International Affairs, and S. Yushenkov, chairman of the Duma Defense Committee. They abandoned scheduled U.S. visits and said that they are suspending all contacts with U.S. citizens.

This was how the heads of the two Duma committees responded to the fact that the U.S. State Department adopted a decision at the highest level to issue V. Zhirinovskiy with a visa at a time when the Duma is receiving numerous complaints from Russian citizens regarding the rudeness of U.S. consular officials and unwarranted refusals to grant visas (not so long ago, for

instance, a group of Russian children, mainly from children's homes and boarding schools—winners of the "Glass Slipper" Music Contest—were subjected to humiliating checks, which by no means everyone passed). (Pickering confirmed that the LDPR [Liberal-Democratic Party of Russia] leader was issued with a visa on the personal orders of the U.S. secretary of state).

The activity of the U.S. Embassy Consular Department has long since come to the attention of the Russian press. It is hard not to notice the long line of people standing outside the building on Sadovoye Koltso in all weathers. The Russian Foreign Ministry, parliament, and mass media editorial offices constantly receive complaints from our fellow citizens regarding what they consider to be the discrimination of Consulate officials and their insulting behavior. According to the Russian Foreign Ministry, 400-500 people a day come to the Embassy's Consular Department. And between 20 and 25 percent of the visa applicants are turned down.

The promptness with which the U.S. ambassador responded to the clash by visiting the State Duma is evidence of his concern at the situation that has developed. However, as I learned from the participants in the meeting, the ambassador by no means came empty-handed. According to Pickering, around 15 percent of the Russian citizens who receive short-term visas stay in the United States for good. And that forces Consulate officials to display particular vigilance. At times beyond what is reasonable. He promised to conduct an official investigation into the officials who have been the cause of complaints. What is more, it turns out that U.S. official organs are also receiving plenty of complaints from U.S. citizens who have clashed with our consular officials when obtaining Russian entry visas—they complain of slowness and are puzzled why the Russian Consulate requires an additional fee for speeding up the issuing of visas.

Ambassador Pickering promised Yushenkov that he would petition the U.S. government to unilaterally introduce a more liberal procedure when it comes to processing Russian citizens' entry to this country. The interlocutors also agreed to do everything they can to promote the conclusion of a consular agreement between Russia and the United States.

At the end of the meeting S. Yushenkov told journalists that he is pleased with the results and is suspending his boycott of the United States. There is every indication that V. Lukin will do the same on his return from the Czech Republic.

Kozyrev on Republican Congressional Elections Win

*LD2411173994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1617
GMT 24 Nov 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev thinks that the victory of Republicans

in the recent Congressional elections is most likely to add an element of toughness to the policies of the USA.

At a Thursday [24 November] informal meeting in Moscow with Russian journalists covering international affairs he said his conclusions are based on certain statements by some Republican leaders who favor tougher measures, in particular in the Bosnian conflict.

However, according to Kozyrev, a further analysis shows that "the devil might not be as bad as he is painted". He described as very positive Moscow's experience with the previous Republican administration.

"We have a big field for working with the Congress, the Republicans and we are now actively dealing with this", Kozyrev stressed.

U.S. Congress Changes Not Mandate for 'Foolhardiness'

MM2511091394 Moscow TRUD in Russian 24 Nov 94
p 6

[Article by correspondent Vissarion Sisnev: "Sunday Does not Come After Tuesday, Specially When It's Black Tuesday"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Washington—For all the talk in the runup to the midterm elections on 8 November that voters were "angrier than ever before," only about 38 percent of the electorate actually turned out to vote, that is to say, roughly 75 million people voted while around 113 million stayed home. Although this is the best result at such elections since 1982, only by stretching a point can this vote be described as an expression of the popular will.

However its outcome, I would remind you, ended the Democratic Party's 40-year-long domination of Congress, while at the same time not a single Republican lost his seat. [passage omitted]

It is essential that the president do something special if he wants to stay on for a second term. The presidential staff are reorganizing the work program, including legislative initiatives, in line with the new configuration of forces. In particular, according to the magazine U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, Clinton "plans to focus more than ever before on international relations, where his presidential powers are very considerable." It goes on to say that "unpleasantnesses may lie ahead for him." Russia is acting increasingly tough toward the former Soviet republics and is issuing a challenge to U.S. policy vis-a-vis Yugoslavia, Iraq, and Iran and the admission of certain former USSR satellites to NATO. In response the administration is abandoning the 'Russia first' rule."

Does this mean that matters are heading toward a worsening, if not an exacerbation, of American-Russian relations. After all, Moscow too does not rule out that this is possible with the advent of the Republicans to

power. To my question about this, an official whose post makes him very familiar with the problem answered as follows on condition that his anonymity be preserved: "It must not be forgotten that the White House's present policy did not come about in a vacuum, the foundations of American-Russian relations were laid under the Republicans, Reagan and Bush. But they develop favorably only when there are joint efforts on both sides."

That is true, but even Moscow can understand when it hears that the most likely chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the right-wing Republican from North Carolina Jesse Helms, and kindred spirits are accusing the Clinton administration of "having been too soft on Russia since the outset" and saying that instead of troops being sent to Haiti they should have been sent to Cuba to overthrow Castro. A chill runs down one's spine at such statements. And oil has also been poured on the flames by certain observers like, for example, ex-diplomat George Kennan, who wrote in the conservative WASHINGTON TIMES: "Clinton's Russian friends are the same Russians who are seeking to expand the antidemocratic Russian empire again."

A now-familiar note is heard in such statements: We thought that the Russians would henceforth act only as we wished, but they.... Such a note did creep in even before, prior to the Republicans' triumph, under the old regime, as it were, including in statements by its representatives. It has to be hoped that this "disappointment" will not poison our relations with America and that Washington won't take up or, more accurately, revive the fashion of showing "toughness toward the disobedient Russians" implied in commentaries about "Americans drifting toward the right." The mandate on Black Tuesday was given for honesty, level-headedness, and farsightedness, not for foolhardiness and reckless talk.

Kozyrev Favors Stronger Role for CSCE

LD2411191094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1701
GMT 24 Nov 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: By diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov, and others]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has said he would like the future CSCE Budapest summit on December 5-6 to make decisions that would enable this organization to "tackle such major issues as, for instance, the settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh."

"We support the CSCE's stronger peacekeeping capabilities. The world is entering a situation when there will be quite possible real conflicts, not only that in Yugoslavia, rather than euphoria about an end to the East-West confrontation," he pointed out.

According to Kozyrev, "now Russia's partners are starting to think why not to carry out a CSCE operation in Nagorno-Karabakh considering that the U.N. is

already overloaded and there is reluctance to launch a U.N. operation." "However, everyone proves to himself that the CSCE is simply unprepared for the task: there is no mechanism, financing, etc.," he continued.

Kozyrev said Moscow had "managed to convince its partners that the CSCE should not be thrown away as a cut-off slice."

"Both in the West and Central Europe there is what I call NATO centrism, NATO mania. Supporters of these ideas insist that the CSCE has exhausted itself and only such "good institutions" as NATO remained. I think we have managed to break the spine to such arguments," he emphasized.

UN Representative Lavrov Interviewed

MM2511110394 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 23 Nov 94 p 3

[Interview in New York with Sergey Lavrov, Russian Federation permanent representative to the United Nations, by Ilya Baranikas; date not given: "Instructions—To Protect the Interests of the Motherland"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Sergey Lavrov, Russian Federation permanent representative to the United Nations, has recently started work in New York. He had been Russian Federation deputy foreign minister since 1992. Our correspondent in the United States, Ilya Baranikas, spoke to him.

[Baranikas] You worked in the Russian mission at the United Nations back in the years when it was the mission of the Soviet Union. Has the policy which the United States has been conducting in the United Nations changed in the years of your absence in New York?

[Lavrov] Yes, to some extent it has changed, of course: During my first posting there, Reagan's Republican administration was in power, whereas now the Democrats are occupying the White House. The Republicans only realized the need to use the United Nations more actively in the interests of their own foreign policy toward the end of their time in power, when the war in the Persian Gulf was beginning. But the Democrats were already speaking about it during the phase of Clinton's election campaign.

Today American diplomacy is operating very forcefully in the United Nations. I believe that this is right: A country which wants to protect its interests should be energetic. Although at the same time it should also be respectful toward others. We also try to operate like this. It does not always work. But that is entirely natural: I think that you can scarcely find any country's mission at the United Nations which carries out all instructions from its capital successfully.

[Baranikas] During the recent vote in the General Assembly on the question of removing the embargo on arms supplies to Bosnia, it is said that Madame Albright,

U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations, walked around the hall persuading delegates from various countries to vote for this resolution. Is this a normal phenomenon?

[Lavrov] Yes, entirely normal: After all, she was campaigning for this during the discussion, before the vote. If a question is of fundamental significance to your country, then such actions are entirely justified.

[Baranikas] And as Russia's permanent representative, would you act in the same way if the need arose?

[Lavrov] Yes, of course, if it concerned an issue of great importance to my country.

[Baranikas] During the vote on the Bosnian resolution, the Russian delegation abstained. The resolution was adopted by a majority of votes, but it is predicted that it will be rejected by the Security Council...

[Lavrov] Of the 15 countries that belong to the Security Council, nine abstained during the vote at the General Assembly session, so the outcome of the vote in the Security Council can largely be predicted. Not just Russia, but a number of other countries are convinced that opening channels for supplying weapons to Bosnia will only add fuel the fire of internecine strife and cannot bring a political settlement to the conflict nearer.

[Baranikas] In New York, apart from Russia's permanent mission to the United States, there is also the Russian Federation Consulate General. People who are far-removed from international politics sometimes find it hard to see the difference between them.

[Lavrov] We represent Russia's interests in the United Nations, while the Consulate General concerns itself with bilateral U.S.-Russian relations as applied to New York. If, for instance, a government or parliamentary delegation arrives from Russia for bilateral talks with the Americans, then the program for its stay is prepared by the Consulate General; it provides the delegation with transportation, reserves hotels, and so on. But if some Russian representatives arrive in order to participate in UN events, then the Russian Permanent Mission at the United Nations deals with them. Consular matters (visas, passports, and other things) come under the sphere of activity of the Consulate General. Ties with compatriots abroad are also formally its business. But we do not stand aloof either. An exhibition of sculptures by Ernst Neizvestny was organized in the permanent mission building this year, and now you can see Mikhail Shemyakin's pictures there... If any Russians living in America appeal to us with their problems, we do not pass the buck, we try to help.

[Baranikas] What problems connected with the United Nations does Russia consider to be a priority?

[Lavrov] Today our country is paying particular attention to two spheres in the activity of the United Nations—peacekeeping and socioeconomic activity.

Peacekeeping primarily because we need stability on the perimeter of our borders. We are interested in stability in more distant areas of the world too. It would be good if less money was spent on UN peacekeeping operations. A total of \$3.5 billion a year on peacekeeping forces is an enormous sum. And furthermore these operations are not always effective—look at Somalia... Incidentally, we expressed doubts when that operation was only just beginning. But our position was not supported at that time.

The second group of priorities is Russia's economic interests. We are interested in making the programs adopted by the General Assembly and the UN Economic and Social Council, which envisage UN support to countries with a transitional economy, more specific. One of the UN projects for Russia, and there is a whole series of them, concerns the development of democratic institutions and administrative structures. This project is being elaborated with the participation of Russian government departments, the parliament, and the regions.

We are also trying to reduce Russia's expenditure on participation in the United Nations—contributions into its regular budget and particularly for peacekeeping operations. Our payments have already been reduced as compared with the USSR's contributions. The UN Committee on Contributions has made a recommendation on the subsequent reduction of our financial participation to 4.5 percent of the UN budget.

[Baranikas] What about Russia's debt to the United Nations, which constitutes \$600 million?

[Lavrov] We are paying it off gradually. In the near future we are waiting for a decision from Moscow on the schedule for paying off debts. Things are difficult for Russia now, but these are not debts which can be put off till better times.

[Baranikas] You are not a new recruit in the United Nations. What is the main difference in your present working conditions and working conditions in former times?

[Lavrov] It is true that I worked here 1981 through 1988 in the mission's economic department as first secretary, aide, senior aide, and then head of the economic advisory board. And before New York, I was in the USSR Foreign Ministry International Economic Organizations Department.

This time I am going to have to be involved not only in economics, but also in all international problems: In my post I represent the country in the United Nations Security Council, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and other UN organs which meet in session in New York. The lion's share of the work will be taken up by work in the Security Council.

As far as any changes in the working conditions are concerned, then these are fairly substantial and have made our lives perceptibly easier.

A great many contrived restrictions, which used to regulate the activity of and visits by our diplomats here, have been abolished. Every staffer at the Russian mission is now free to decide for himself how and where he will spend his weekend or vacation. Russians who work abroad can travel to third countries. You can now invite relatives from Russia with no restrictions: In the past, only husbands, wives, and minors were allowed to visit. We can now send our children to American schools, which was banned in the past.

[Baranikas] Do you remember how the Soviet colony's primary party organization, which for some reason was disguised and called a "trade union" organization, used to operate?

[Lavrov] Yes, and the trade union organization was conspiratorially called a "local committee," while the Communist Youth League was called a "sports" organization... These absurdities no longer exist, just as UN specialists who are Russian citizens and work in a personal capacity in various UN organs no longer have to "voluntarily" give up part of their earnings. In the past their wages were "trimmed" to the general Soviet level, and they were made equal in material terms with Soviet diplomats at various levels. All this has disappeared without a trace, but certain restrictions still exist on the American side.

[Baranikas] For example?

[Lavrov] In the past all Soviet diplomats had to inform the U.S. authorities three days in advance if they were going to leave the 25-mile (40 km) zone around the city center. This procedure was supposed to disappear in accordance with an agreement between the United States and Russia. But for the time being, these restrictions are only removed for diplomats of aide rank and higher. There is no logic to be found here.

CIS Kurd Urges Mediation Between Turkey, Kurds

LD2311152094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1406 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Representative of Kurdistan's National Liberation Front in the CIS Akhmed Dere urged the Russian president and government "to act as a mediator and peacemaker in the conflict between the Kurdish movement and Turkey."

He told a press conference in Moscow that Russia, as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, must play a more central role in the settlement of the Kurdish problem, because "it's borders are near the conflict zone, because it is linked with Kurds by traditional and historical bonds, and because more than 1 million Kurds live in the CIS."

Dere told Interfax that "Kurds have friends" in the Russian parliament and other government bodies, "who

are deeply concerned about Turkey's activity on part of the former Soviet Union's territory."

Speaking about the attitude of the Front leaders to the plans for building an oil pipeline from Azerbaijan to Turkey, Dere said that "the Front is strong enough to prevent any work done without due account taken of the national interests of the actual owners of this land." He also said that in the opinion of the Kurdish leaders, the "Caspian project" is a manifestation of the "pan-Turkic plans."

Minister, Iranian Ambassador Discuss Cooperation

LD2311151894 Tehran IRNA in English 1342 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, Nov. 23. IRNA—Russian minister for nationalities and regional policies, Nikolay Yegorov here Wednesday [23 November] emphasized the need for expansion of relations and cooperation between Iran and Russia in all areas.

In a meeting with Iranian ambassador to Moscow, Mehdi Safari, Yegorov said that bilateral relations date back to the 16th century. He said that Tehran and Moscow enjoy friendly relations with mutual respect adding that bilateral relations have been enjoying an upward trend. The volume of trade between the two states in 1992 and 1993 indicated growth in mutual cooperation, Yegorov said.

Safari referred to the historical bonds between the two nations and described Tehran-Moscow relations as excellent. Iranian envoy said that greater cooperation between the two countries especially in the field of energy, power plants and mines and metals were among the objectives of his mission in Russia.

Duma Chairman Rybkin Receives Chinese Parliamentarians

MM2311160394 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Nov 94 First Edition p 1

[Report from the ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA/ITAR-TASS column: "Parliamentarians Meet"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Topical issues of bilateral relations between Russia and China were discussed at a meeting yesterday between State Duma Chairman Ivan Rybkin and a delegation from the Chinese National People's Congress Sino-Russian Friendship Group.

At the meeting the sides voiced their mutual conviction that the strengthening of friendship between the two neighboring peoples and the development of interparliamentary contacts is very important not only for the two countries but for the preservation of peace in the Asia-Pacific region.

Japan Postpones Repayment of Russian Debts

LD2511121894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1141 GMT 25 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Nikolay Geronin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 25 TASS—The Russian side has had talks with Japanese representatives to postpone the repayment of Russian debts, and Japan, as member of the "Paris Club", has decided to satisfy this request. Tokyo has made this decision in keeping with the agreement reached within the frameworks of the "Paris Club" last June to sign by November 30 all the necessary bilateral documents with Russia, putting off the repayment of its debts. ITAR-TASS was told today at the Russian Finance Ministry. The corresponding Russo-Japanese agreement is to be signed together with other documents during Russian Vice-Premier Oleg Soskovets' upcoming visit to Japan, scheduled for November 27.

Japanese officials have announced in Tokyo on Thursday that the Japanese Government had decided to put off the repayment of Russian debts to Japanese trade companies, amounting to 180 million dollars, which had to be paid back in 1994. Moscow will apparently have to begin repaying this sum two years and nine months from now, and to complete it within a period of thirteen years.

Delegation To Develop Trade, Economic Ties in Japan

LD2411174794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1627 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 24 TASS—Documents which a government delegation of the Russian Federation is planning to sign in the course of its official visit to Japan will become the foundation for the development of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

This was stated here today by Oleg Soskovets, first deputy premier of Russia, at a meeting with Jiro Kawake [name as received], chairman of the Japanese-Russian Committee for Economic Cooperation.

The first deputy premier considers the processing of Russian raw materials with the use of Japanese technologies to be the most perspective form of bilateral relations.

Russia is seeking to process timber more qualitatively with the aim of its further sale at the world market. With that end in view, it is necessary to resolve the problem of the double taxation at the government level, Oleg Soskovets noted.

According to him, "Russia proposes to conclude a corresponding agreement but the Japanese side refuses to do this referring to the absence of a peaceful treaty" between the two countries.

Oleg Soskovets also spoke for the adoption of a Russo-Japanese agreement envisaging preferential tariffs for cargo transportation across the border. "Russia is prepared for cooperation taking into account the interests of Western companies including Japanese firms," he stressed.

Jiro Kawake regards the present state of the Russian economy as a transitional one. Under these conditions, he believes, direct contacts among enterprises are important. Japanese business circles are pinning particular hopes on two projects: The development of timber resources in the Russian Far East and deliveries of Japanese equipment for this purpose, as well as the implementation of the 1991 agreement on the development of the Sakhalin shelf.

It was noted at the meeting that the success of the second project depended on the adoption by the State Duma of a law on the division of products to be extracted.

Russia Involved in Japanese Space Rocket Project

LD2411163694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1421 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Japanese space rocket M-3S2 will put in space a ballistic research capsule of Russian manufacture early next year. The "Express" capsule containing research instruments of the Japanese Space and Astronautics Institute and the German space agency Deutsche Aerospace AG is to be launched in mid-January.

The Express project (Experimental Re-entry Space System) is being carried out under a bilateral German-Japanese space cooperation agreement and among other things, will probe into the effects of micro-gravitation on various systems.

Under the agreement the sides divided duties - Germany undertook to provide a capsule by signing a DM12-million-contract (about 7.5 million dollars) with the Khrunichev State Research-Industrial Center in Russia, and Japan - to put the capsule in space with the M-3S2 rocket of the Japanese space and astronautics institute.

The Japanese rocket will put the capsule in an elliptic orbit between 270 kilometers (perigee) and 380 kilometers (apogee). After a series of experiments in orbit the capsule will return to Earth near town of Woomera, in Australia and then be moved to Bremen, Germany, for data analysis.

In case the Russian capsule is used successfully the Khrunichev industrial center will be commissioned to make an Express-2 for the European rocket Ariane-5.

Soskovets Visit to Japan Previewed

MM2511102994 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Sergey Agafonov: "Soskovets Going to Japan as Chief Economist"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tokyo—Thanks to the efficiency and caustic attitude of Japanese reporters—who enjoy copious news leaks from official Japanese departments—the veil of secrecy covering virtually everything about the forthcoming visit to Tokyo by a Russian Government superdelegation headed by Oleg Soskovets has been lifted.

The Japanese general public are already aware that the culmination of the visit will be the signing of a joint document and the institution of a new structure with the high-sounding name "Intergovernmental Commission for Trade and Economic Issues"; Soskovets will be asking for an increase in the line of credit from the Export-Import Bank of Japan to \$540 million for four Russian projects, but the Japanese are unlikely to provide more than \$400 million; the Russian side will also be insisting on the Japanese Government allocating funds to insure Japanese companies' operations in the Russian market, while the Japanese will be insisting on the problem of the repayment of Russian debts being cleared up.

It should be noted that the details of Soskovets' "confidential working meetings" with Japanese Ambassador Watanabe in Moscow—meetings that have become a regular event over the past few months—have been covered in great detail by the Japanese press, and, consequently, we know that our first vice premier is very much counting on continuing to be the "main economist" during the visit and avoiding discussing ticklish political topics such as, primarily, the territorial problem.

KYODO reports that this matter was discussed at Soskovets' latest meeting with Ambassador Watanabe Tuesday. Also discussed were the prospects for Foreign Minister Andrey Kozirev's visit to Tokyo next January, although, insofar as we are aware, Soskovets' job does not include being in charge of Kozirev. Incidentally, there may be quite a simple explanation for this point—KYODO notes that the first deputy premier and the ambassador agreed that political problems would be discussed with the Japanese by the head of the Russian Foreign Ministry, and this obviously means that the first vice premier will retain responsibility for economic matters. As a theoretical plan this division of labor could only be welcomed, were it not for the stroke of bad luck of Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Kunihiko Saito's stating that, although the Japanese side recognizes Soskovets' economic specialization, this by no means implies that the territorial issue will be put to one side during his visit to Japan.

One thing is reassuring and encouraging—the busy schedule of business meetings facing the Russian delegation will not be long and exhausting, since the program has been constructed on the principle that "once the job's done you can let your hair down." It became clear today that the special aircraft carrying Soskovets and his entourage will arrive in Tokyo around noon on Sunday,

and the main documents relating to the visit will be signed on a very tight schedule—just six hours after the guests land, at 1710 Tokyo time the same day. Monday will be spent on brief meetings between the delegation head and the Japanese premier and ministers of finance, foreign affairs, and trade and industry. On Tuesday morning Soskovets will give a lecture at the Keidanren (Federation of Japanese Industrialists), after lunch he will attend a press conference on the work done in the last day and a bit, and he will then immediately set off on a tour of the country that will last till December and be pleasant in every respect.

On the eve of the delegation's arrival there were extensive rumors that the Moscow Motor Vehicle Plant named for the Lenin Komsomol—which has been in a difficult position for some time now—will gradually be put back on its feet thanks to an agreement with Peugeot of France and Toyota of Japan.

The inclusion in the Russian Government delegation of the president of the "AZLK" Joint-Stock Company seems to indirectly confirm these rumors and gives rise to expectations of a major pleasant surprise. There is only one cloud on the horizon—the thundering silence from the Japanese side, which, as a rule, always gives its general audience advance warning, either through hints or minor "leaks," about major deals that are in the offing. So as not to languish in ignorance, the IZVESTIYA bureau in Tokyo appealed direct to Toyota Headquarters and, a few days later, received a written reply from Toyota comprising two subject headings.

The first, entitled "On the Toyota Business in Russia," notes that 3,800 assembled Toyotas were exported from Japan to Russia in 1993, whereas only 1,300 had been exported in the first nine months of this year. The most popular Toyotas in the Russian market are the Land Cruiser jeep and the Hiace minibus, followed closely by the Carina and Corolla compacts. The Japanese company is devoting a great deal of attention to organizing a network of own-brand technical service centers in Russia and the CIS countries—there are already 12 such centers in the biggest regional centers, including Moscow, St. Petersburg, Khabarovsk, Vladivostok, Tashkent, and Kiev.

The second section of Toyota's written reply—headed "New Directions" is emphatically laconic. It states that, despite the rumors circulating about Toyota taking part in the modernization of the AZLK, the corporation has no such plans at the present time, and the question of investing in Russian car plants does not arise.

The potential new export markets for this mighty car corporation include only one country as an indisputable priority—China. For China Toyota has developed a prototype "new family car," completed a plan for the construction of several plants and assembly shops, and worked out a phased timetable for investment. The president of Toyota and all the members of the Japanese

supercompany's board have already visited China several times. None of them have as yet been to Russia, as far as we are aware.

The second "convoy" of Japanese humanitarian aid to the disaster-stricken Kuril Islands has left for Russia.

While it transpired for the umpteenth time that Moscow's promises to help the South Kurils, which were hit by an earthquake, was another bluff—giving rise to many rhetorical questions such as "where is the government aid for the stricken population?" and "where is the money?"—Japan has been continuing to do real work.

Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Kojo Igarashi stated that this time Japanese aid worth 45 million yen (\$450,000) will be delivered to the islands, including kerosene heaters and compact stoves. Moreover, humanitarian cargo worth 82 million yen (\$820,000) will be sent to the Russian islanders through the local authorities and social organizations on Hokkaido Island.

The misfortune that befell the populace of the South Kurils has been taken very much to heart on Hokkaido—a special "stricken islanders' rescue fund" has even been set up. This fund has collected more than 7 million yen in private contributions in the past month alone.

DPRK Delegation Promotes Economic Relations in Far East

SK2511062294 Moscow Voice of Russia World Service in Korean 1200 GMT 24 Nov 94

[From "Various Aspects of Cooperation" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] As has already been reported, a delegation of the DPRK External Economy Commission has recently visited Russia's Far East regions.

Observers view that the delegation's visit was designed to actively vitalize bilateral economic relations between the two countries' borderline regions.

We will hear from the Russian media on how they assess the results of DPRK delegation's visit to Russia's Far East regions: Due to the differences of opinion over the distribution of profits between the two countries, the DPRK-Russian agreement on jointly developing forestry of Siberia region has been deadlocked and, thus, inflicted heavy damage on bilateral economic relations.

In order to break the stalemated situation, a DPRK delegation consisting of experts from various economic fields, visited Russia's Far East regions. Led by Han Su-kil, vice chairman of the DPRK External Economic Commission, the delegation inspected the Maritime Kray, the Amur Oblast, the Jewish Autonomous Oblast, and the Sakhalin Oblast.

While regional reporters did not provide details on the results of talks between the DPRK delegation and

regional administrative officials, Han Su-kil, the head of the delegation, assessed the visit as being very productive.

In the Sakhalin Oblast, the delegation agreed with the regional fishery bureau's officials on joint efforts in fishing. Since joint cooperation will surely bring about a large amount of profits, this region's administrative officials hurriedly left for Moscow to get government approval for additional fishing quotas.

In the Maritime Kray, the DPRK delegation inked an agreement and a protocol of cooperation with the region's administrative representatives. Accordingly, joint-venture companies in the fields of light industry, shipbuilding industry, coal and excavation industry, and the construction of houses will be set up in the Maritime Kray in the near future. The two sides have also agreed to establish a representative office of the DPRK Administration Council in Vladivostok early next year. The representative office is expected to control businesses between Korean firms and joint-venture firms that are slated to be opened in the seashore of Russia's Pacific region.

In the Amur Oblast and the Jewish Autonomous Oblast, the DPRK delegation has concluded an agreement to promote cooperation in the agricultural production sector. According to the Jewish Autonomous Oblast's vice administrative officer (Viktor Krevich), the DPRK delegation's visit is of significance in the fact that the DPRK has signed an agreement based on (?foreign currency trade), and not non- foreign currency transaction trade..

Summing up the result of his visit, the delegation head stressed that Pyongyang will further promote amicable relations with these regions in the future.

OPEC Hopes Russian Exports Will Be Curbed by Severe Winter

MM2511092194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
24 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Boris Vinogradov: "Tropical Jakarta Hopes for a Severe Winter in Russia"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Whereas gasoline-starved Moscow is looking for opportunities to increase Russia's oil exports, OPEC countries in Jakarta have agreed to freeze their own production and maintain it at its current level for the whole of 1995, putting on sale no more than 24.52 million barrels per day.

If they succeed in doing so, and none of the 12 main exporters breaks its commitments, a marked growth of prices is to be expected on the world oil market this winter—possibly to \$21 per barrel, against the current price of \$17 per barrel. Such is the conclusion reached by experts analyzing OPEC's decision.

At the same time it is noted that current trends are moving in favor of Russia, which remains the third largest oil-producer after Saudi Arabia and the United States. This, despite the fact that overall production and consumption within the country is in free fall. Thus while Russia produced 354 million tonnes of oil in 1993, it produced only 310 million tonnes in 1994.

However, the meagerness of our own oil share is not stopping Russians from increasing exports. While in 1993 the "Transneft" company overtook the maximum level reached by the former Union by 82.7 million tonnes, this year it has increased that figure to 84 million tonnes. The rate of growth is to some degree secured at the expense of our Commonwealth partners. In the current year CIS countries have received from Russia not 48 million tonnes, as was the case last year, but only 30 million.

At a recent conference Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets demanded that several more Russian companies be given access to the export oil pipelines. No one knows what limits exports could reach.

In this situation OPEC countries are warily watching to see that Russia, which possesses the potential to create panic and chaos on the oil exchanges, does not upset their plans. At any rate, at the demand of Libya and Qatar the conference in Jakarta provided for the option of a six-month freeze if Russia and the North Sea oil-producing countries take no active measures to capture the market.

True, some participants in the Jakarta meeting hope that a severe winter and the threat of a freeze in the northern territories will prevent Russia's "oil kings" from doing so. In this they rely on weather forecasts predicting severe cold spells in regions near the Arctic Circle. One participant in the conference said that only a cold winter will restrain the Russians and allow us [OPEC] to obtain the prices which existed at the height of the 1990 crisis in the Persian Gulf.

Gazprom Blames Ukraine for Bulgaria, Turkey Gas Shortages

LD2411181694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1625
GMT 24 Nov 94

["INTERFAX-UKRAINE" news item]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Supplies of Russian gas to Bulgaria and Turkey have been reduced because Ukraine is taking part of the gas intended for these countries, a spokesman for the Russian Gazprom joint-stock company told Interfax. As a result, Gazprom has to deliver to Ukraine 20 million cu m [cubic meters] of gas per day more than contracted.

According to the Gazprom source, Bulgaria not long ago received about 3 million cu m of gas less than it should in a 24-hour period, and Turkey - about 4 million cu m

less. He remarked, however, that Bulgaria also takes "as much gas as it needs," although it has a large gas supply debt to Gazprom.

Russian gas is transported to Turkey via Ukraine, Moldova, and Bulgaria.

Interruptions in gas supplies to Bulgaria and Turkey began about a week ago. "Gazprom has been showered with cables from Turkey demanding an increase in gas deliveries to this country," the source said.

Pacific Nuclear Pollution Conference Planned

MM2411122394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
24 Nov 94 p 4

[Report by Natalya Ostrovskaya: "Submerged Submarine Reactors Send Out 'SOS'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vladivostok—Thanks to the notorious liquid radioactive waste and its discharge into the Sea of Japan what specialists consider to be the far more real problem of solid radioactive waste contamination in the northern Pacific Ocean and the three Far East seas has remained in the background.

This waste is made up of the products obtained from recycling [utilizatsiya] nuclear submarines plus the waste products from Japanese and U.S. nuclear power stations which are buried at sea.

A letter from U.S. scientists at the Center for Research into the Problem of Nuclear Waste (Mississippi) to the Far East Branch of the International Green Cross environmental organization in Vladivostok provides convincing evidence that there is a problem. It says that the Japanese-Russian-U.S. group set up to resolve the problem of dumping nuclear waste in the Seas of Japan and Okhotsk and the Arctic Ocean will meet 12-13 January next year at the Gulf Coast Hotel, Mississippi. Representatives of the Far East's Green Cross who have information regarding the problem of the contamination of the Sea of Japan are invited to attend.

Evidently the people who wrote the letter to Vladivostok are interested in more detailed, thorough information than that which they have at the moment. Thanks to the efforts of one member of the international group of experts, Professor Aleksey Yablokov, chairman of the Russian Federation Interdepartmental Commission for Environmental Safety, figures that, for all that they are general, are truly shocking are known. Thus, the message to the people of Vladivostok says that during the "Cold War" the Russians discharged 2.5 million curies of radioactive waste, twice the official figure. Some of this "dose" is to be found in the 18 nuclear reactors that were dumped in the sea along with their fuel. The already complex environmental situation is aggravated by the Pacific currents, thanks to which, the scientists write, the nuclear waste dumped by the Russians "floats" toward Alaska.

Green Cross Regional Coordinator Aleksandr Malyshev regards the involvement of the people of the Far East in the meeting on the problems of nuclear waste in Mississippi as one step toward the implementation of this project. Aleksandr Malyshev said that oceanologists, ecologists, and representatives of the Pacific Fleet will leave for the United States.

U.S. Interest in Russian Rockets, Launching Complexes Noted

LD2411111694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0741
GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Pakhomov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York November 24 TASS—The United States plans to modernise its obsolete carrier-rocket launchers with the help of Russian experts. The Americans are displaying particular interest in the automated launching complexes, developed by the Moscow transport machine-building designing bureau for "Zenit" and "Tsiklon" carrier-rockets.

A representative of the U.S. Air Force recently attended the launching of a "Zenit" rocket from the Baykonur Cosmodrome to check the effectiveness of these complexes. "We were amazed by the simplicity and efficiency of preparations to launch the Zenit", an unnamed high-ranking representative of the U.S. Air Force told the magazine "AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY". "Nobody had to be on the launching platform, because everything was done automatically, including the placing of the carrier-rocket in the vertical position, its connection to the supply systems, and the launching proper."

Specialists of the Russian designing bureau are currently visiting the Cape Canaveral cosmodrome in Florida at the invitation of the "Martin-Marietta" corporation to check the possibility of modernising "Atlas" launching complexes and eventually the launching facilities for the most powerful American "Titan" rocket. "Too much time is being spent in the United States to prepare the launching, and we hope to cut it down by means of Russian technologies," Robert Ford, one of the managers of the "Martin-Marietta" corporation, noted. The corporation's engineers, as well as representatives of the U.S. Air Force, were staggered by the fact that the "Zenit" launching complex took only five hours to get ready for the next start.

In addition to launching complexes, the "Martin-Marietta" is also interested in Russian rocket engines. It plans to install them on modernised "Atlas" rockets. The idea of manufacturing such engines in the United States is now being considered. The corporation recently purchased in Russia several hundred litres of kerosene, which proved to be better than the American as regards density and other characteristics. The "Martin-Marietta" plans to put it to several tests with a view to using this kerosene in "Atlas" launching engines.

Political Affairs

Yeltsin Continues to Reduce Staff

LD2511121194 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 1143
GMT 25 Nov 94

[By *ITAR-TASS*]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 25 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin continues to reduce his apparatus. In accordance with a presidential decree received by *ITAR-TASS* today, the information and technical center of analytical developments and a group of experts will be included into the composition of the analytical center under the president and its staff will be reduced no less than by 20 per cent.

Zhirinovskiy Ready To Form Bloc With Communists

LD2411201194 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 1946
GMT 24 Nov 94

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Evald Kessariyskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nizhny Novgorod November 24 TASS—Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, leader of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia (LDPR), visited Nizhny Novgorod on Thursday to meet Governor Boris Nemtsov, known as a prominent reform champion and practitioner. Zhirinovskiy also met voters of the city's major industrial district. Speaking to over 2,000 people, he said he is ready to block with former vice-president and Yeltsin's opponent Aleksandr Rutskoy, Communists and the Agrarian Party "for the sake of Russia's escaping the wreck."

Although this is the fourth visit of Zhirinovskiy to the Nizhny Novgorod region in the last five months, this is the first time when Nemtsov agreed to receive him. The meeting was held behind closed doors, with no reporters present.

After the meeting, Zhirinovskiy told TASS "Nemtsov is bringing the country to collapse," while Nemtsov referred to Zhirinovskiy's conduct as "populism, nothing more." Nemtsov said he suggested that Zhirinovskiy refuse from running for the presidency. "Then this will be actually a victory of democracy. I guess the people will not give him as much credit as a year ago," Nemtsov said referring to Zhirinovskiy's winning scores at the December 1993 parliamentary elections.

Rutskoy Claims To Have Widespread Support

LD2511173194 Moscow *INTERFAX in English* 1602
GMT 25 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Former vice president, currently leader of the patriotic movement Derzhava Aleksandr Rutskoy has said that after his trips to 14 regions of Russia the number of his movement's ranks exceeded 800,000 people.

Speaking before the public of Vologda, he pointed out he will visit all the other regions of Russia before the next presidential elections. Rutskoy is confident that by the beginning of the election campaign he will be able to create a strong movement to guide patriotic forces to power in a legal way.

Ecological 'Cedar' Movement Becomes Party

MK2411121094 Moscow *SEGODNYA in Russian*
24 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Irina Vladykina from Yekaterinburg under the "Organizational Party Development" rubric: "Cedar" Is Making Second Attempt"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The "Cedar" constructive-ecological movement, which came into being before the elections for the Federal Assembly late in 1993, has turned into an ecological "Cedar" party. The founding congress of this party was held in Yekaterinburg with messages of greetings coming from Arkadiy Volskiy, Ivan Silayev, and leaders of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia.

Anatoliy Panfilov, who heads the party, believes that in addition to the educational work with directors of enterprises and the population, it will be able to deal directly with nature conservation agencies and ecological inspection services.

Last year's failure (the movement fell short by 5 percent of the required votes, for which reason it is not represented in the State Duma) does not deter the organizers of the party. They intend to campaign against practices where finances come from separate ecological public organizations from Russia and other countries, and to establish a unified independent ecological fund.

Academician Aleksey Yablokov, a leader of the new party, stated at the congress that the "Green" movement today has two strategies: one is a sharp politicization, and the other is avoiding all politics, which may result in a split. Aleksey Yablokov told your *SEGODNYA* correspondent that for more than a decade "Cedar" has been drawing a skeptical attitude from many public organizations devoted to environmental protection, both because they lay claim to being the leader in the ecology movement, and because of the new party's undisguised connection with state-run and commercial structures.

'Life-Time' Mufti Tajuddin on Russia's Moslems

LD241112594 Moscow *INTERFAX in English* 0625
GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Talgat Tajuddin said he still believed himself to be the Supreme Mufti and Chairman of the Central Spiritual Department of Moslems of Russia and the CIS European Countries as he had been elected to this post for a life-time.

He told a press conference in Moscow today that the emergency congress of the Central Spiritual Department

of Moslems of Russia and the CIS European Countries in Ufa (Bashkortostan) on November 1 was "self-styled."

The congress in Ufa dismissed Tajuddin from his both posts.

Tajuddin said he could be replaced on his post only if he died or if he quitted Islam. He stressed that his adversaries would never see him doing either of the two things.

The powers of Tajuddin were confirmed by the department's presidium, muftis of the Middle Volga Region, Tatarstan, the Rostov, St.Petersburg, Sverdlovsk and other Russian regions who were present at the press conference.

Tajuddin said the split in the Central Spiritual Department of Moslems of Russia and the CIS European Countries was a result of activities of foreign Moslem organizations and fundamentalist foundations based in Arab countries. He warned against fanning discord between Russian Moslems of different ethnic belonging. He said if Islam was opposed to other confessions this could trigger off a conflict similar to that in ex-Yugoslavia.

Tajuddin blamed the Bashkir authorities for interfering into affairs of the religious community. He said that in particular the Council on Religions under the Bashkir government had approved the decisions of the congress. He said that as a result the bank accounts of the Central Spiritual Department of Moslems had been frozen and could be transferred to pretenders. He said he expected the office of the Central Spiritual Department of Moslems in Ufa to be captured.

Tajuddin, a Tatar, 46 years old, was elected the Chairman of the Central Spiritual Department of Moslems of Russia and the CIS European Countries in 1992.

DPR Demands Report on Social Accord Treaty

MM2511130994 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 23 Nov 94 p 2

[Commentary by Lyubov Tsukanova: "The Treaty Is For the Conciliation of Interests, Not for the Purpose of Blackmail"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Democratic Party of Russia [DPR] National Council and the DPR faction in the State Duma have demanded the immediate convocation of the Civil Accord Assembly in order for the federal organs of power to report on the fulfillment of the commitments which they undertook in the Treaty on Social Accord. In the opinion of the faction's leaders, the government is not keeping its promises, the socioeconomic situation in the country is deteriorating, and hence at its next congress the party could raise the question of removing its signature from the treaty.

For all the scepticism of a significant part of society toward the treaty, this statement attests at least to the fact that the Treaty on Social Accord has become a real

factor in political life which is recognized and appealed to, not only by its initiators, but also by the moderate opposition. The treaty has been in force for more than six months, and in this time, Arkadiy Volskiy, leader of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs [RUIE], said at a press conference last Friday [19 November], "We cannot fail to note that there has been something of a lull." The RUIE leader is not convinced that this "lull" will last long, but that the country got through the summer and fall relatively calmly is a fact which cannot be denied. While not considering the treaty to be a panacea against all political storms, Arkadiy Volskiy is nevertheless convinced that work to create conciliation mechanisms and procedures must be continued.

But there is another fact which it is impossible to deny: There has been no let-up in attempts to undermine the process of conciliation in society. The DPR is by no means the first "signatory" to use its signature to the treaty to put pressure on the authorities. Mark Masarskiy, one of the leaders of the "roundtable"—the Russian Federation President's Public Chamber—and a member of the conciliation commission, believes that "intimidation is an improper method," especially since it is ineffective: Retracting their signature does not mean that, after seceding from the treaty, the "apostates" will employ different methods. However, it is necessary to acknowledge another fact also: Attacks on the treaty by its participants objectively reinforce the prestige of the irreconcilable opposition, which does not recognize the conciliation process and has been recently stepping up its statements on the need to change the "regime."

Arkadiy Volskiy is right in saying that accords make sense only if they are fulfilled. Those who say that, fully or partially, the government has not fulfilled the majority of its commitments under the treaty are, alas, also right. But it is also a fact that the agreement is being badly fulfilled by all sides—by parliament, which has still not adopted a number of fundamental acts of the first importance; by entrepreneurs, who often, in Mark Kasarskiy's words, behave "antinationally"; and by political chiefs and public organization leaders, who have "lobbed" into the public arena the ideas of early elections, or, on the contrary, of extending the term of the existing organs of power. When not only the Communists, but also "Yabloko" leader Grigoriy Yavlinskiy talk about early presidential elections, this means that ideas of a rule-of-law state are still just so much hot air, not only for those who have never accepted them, but also for some democrats. It is one thing when the Communists ignore the Constitution: The statement by the Communist Party of the Russian Federation published recently in PRAVDA and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA is only a continuation of their policy. It is another thing when leaders pretending to independence and parading their adherence to democratic principles begin to play someone else's tune. At any rate, this has already given Gennadiy Zyuganov the right to assume that leaders of the other democratic organizations will

follow Yavlinskiy in demanding early elections. It gives Petr Romanov, member of the Federation Council—a "leading light of the opposition"—the right to state already today that he is ready to take on responsibility for the country, either as president or as premier.

There is nothing terrible in the fact that political forces are seeking power—that is normal for a democratic country. What is bad is that no one wants to be patient and carry his burden for even the short period which is defined in the Constitution as transitional. The Treaty on Social Accord was concluded precisely so that the country should be saved from upheavals during this period and so that the new Constitution should come into force in its entirety without let or hindrance. The impatience of politicians has frequently played a fateful role in Russia's history. It is more difficult to negotiate than to issue ultimatums or go for broke. But it is more productive. It is for this purpose, and not for that of self-assertion, that the democratic methods of conciliating interests provided by the Treaty on Social Accord should be used.

Fedorov Urges Democrats To Quit Government

*MK2411092094 Moscow KURANTY in Russian
24 Nov 94 p 1*

[Statement by Boris Fedorov under the "Opinion" rubric: "Boris Fedorov: "The Authorities Have Turned Their Backs on Democrats and Reforms"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday, Boris Fedorov, State Duma deputy and Liberal Democratic Union chairman, made the following statement to a KURANTY correspondent.

Tension is increasing in the mass media in recent days in regard to the upcoming voting in the State Duma on the 1995 budget. In the process, **deputies are being intimidated by a possible disbandment of the State Duma** resulting from its failure to pass the budget, and parliamentary elections are predicted to take place in spring 1995.

I categorically reject pushing through the State Duma any decisions using blackmail. Such actions **have nothing to do with democracy** and are even more dangerous than a bad budget. Nobody is going to intimidate us. Only politically bankrupt people who are afraid of looking their voters in the eye can be scared of elections.

I disagree that the nonacceptance of the budget should necessarily entail a dissolution of the State Duma. **What is preventing the president from replacing the government, drawing up a new budget, starting genuine reforms?** Finally, I doubt that the president, with his services in fighting communism, will decide to dissolve what is actually the third parliament in four years.

I call on all freedom-loving citizens to give a rebuff to the attempts to view the situation in the country exclusively in black and white. Most people in Russia have long been

using color televisions, and they can see that four political centers have been formed—the essentially nonparty colorless authority, communists, Zhirinovskiyites, and a democratic opposition to the first three groups.

The opposition of democrats is taking shape not because some people are joining hands with the communists, but because the authorities have turned their backs on democrats and reforms. **The remaining democrats should quit the government, which is incapable of solving society's vital problems.**

Grachev Undergoes Medical Tests, Misses Duma

LD2411101694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0942 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Nechayev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 24 Nov—Russia's Defense Minister Pavel Grachev is in hospital for medical tests and his aide Yelena Agapova hopes that the minister will be back on duty next Monday.

Agapova told the ITAR-TASS correspondent today that Grachev had gone in for observation following his address to the State Duma last Friday. "He was feeling poorly and the doctors recommended that he go to the clinic. You know how intensively he has been working recently," she said.

According to Agapova, the minister is feeling alright, although he is unable to take part in any engagements this week.

Grachev should have attended closed hearings in the State Duma today on corruption in the Western Group of Forces. According to the EKHO MOSKVY news agency, Matvey Buriakov, former commanding officer of the Western Group of Forces, will be standing in for him.

Shakhray on Early Elections, Budget Compromise

LD2311181294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1559 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian Vice-Premier and leader of the Party of Russian Unity and Accord Sergey Shakhray says that new parliamentary and presidential elections must be held within the time frame set by the country's constitution.

In an interview with Interfax on Wednesday, he stressed that the deputies, government and president had enough common sense to be able to strike a compromise on the draft new budget. Shakhray was commenting on a statement by leader of the Russia's Choice Party Yegor Gaydar saying the president might dissolve parliament if the 1995 budget was rejected.

Shakhray says the dissolution of the Duma or the government will be equally destructive culminating in a new political crisis. At the same time, he stressed the deputies must realize that the dissolution of parliament is a

constitutional procedure and it is up to the politicians to decide whether or not it is implemented.

Tsarev on LDPR 'Ruse' To Remove Rybkin

MM2311170094 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 23 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Pavel Anokhin: "Are There Any More Bets?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The recent statement by LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] faction deputies rescinding the votes (which were secret, so just try to fathom which way they voted now) they gave to Ivan Rybkin on 14 January this year to elect him State Duma chairman ended in a vote of no confidence in the speaker of the house. As we know only five deputies supported this—which came as a surprise to many Duma deputies.

State Duma aide Aleksey Tsarev comments on the situation especially for ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI:

"In this instance the LDPR deputies were using a traditional ruse to remove Ivan Rybkin as a possible presidential election candidate. Although Ivan Petrovich has never declared his intention to stand for the Russian presidency, LDPR analysts could calculate various scenarios and circumstances and see him as a real rival to Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, so they determined at all events to compromise him," the aide said.

It is hard to say to what degree the Duma analyst's opinion corresponds to reality, but all the signs suggest that the number of presidential players has increased.

Duma Deputies Form Social-Democratic Faction

LD2211172894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1355 GMT 22 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian State Duma deputies have formed an initiative group for the creation of a Social-Democratic parliamentary faction, Interfax was told by Duma deputy Vasily Lipitskiy who is currently in Novosibirsk.

Among the group members are 20 deputies from the factions the New Regional Policy, Russia's Choice, the Party of Russia's Unity and Accord, as well as several independent deputies. Lipitskiy is the group's coordinator.

He said that some of the political factions and alliances in the Duma are in crisis. That is why the creation of a new political faction, based on the ideas of social democracy, will help deputies engage in constructive work in the State Duma.

Commenting on the Duma's immediate agenda, Lipitskiy said that debates on the 1995 budget is the main issue. He believes the issue will receive long and hard debate because the main revenues are to come from high taxes and Western credits.

Unemployment Increases 80 Percent Since January

LD2411150894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1145 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Liliya Kuznetsova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 24 TASS—As many as 1,475,200 people registered at Russia's federal employment service from the beginning of 1994. The number of unemployed rose by 80 per cent from the beginning of the year. The number of Russians who lost jobs increased by 50,000 in October alone. ITAR-TASS learned this from the press service of the Russian federal employment service.

The unemployment rate for the whole of the country has risen 80 per cent, but it is different in various regions.

By the end of the year, the number of unemployed will reach two million, and this index will double in 1995, according to experts of the service.

FCS Edict Grants Investigation, Security Power

MK2411083094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 24 Nov 94 p 1

[Report by Aleksandr Barinov, Aleksandr Kudakayev in the "State Security" column: "What Did We Fight For? The President Has Restored the FCS Investigation Functions"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday President Yeltsin signed the edict "On Creating an Investigation Directorate of the Federal Counterintelligence Service of the Russian Federation [FCS] and Investigation Units in Counterintelligence Bodies of the Russian Federation." Under the document, the new—or rather restored—service is entrusted to organize and conduct preliminary investigation on matters referring to FCS jurisdiction. To organize an investigation apparatus, the authorized strength of the counterintelligence service (including military and civilian personnel) is to be increased by 1,000. Sources say the creation of an investigation apparatus in the FCS structure also envisions the return to this department of Lefortovo prison. Therefore Russian state security has fully restored its powers that existed before 21 December 1993.

FCS representatives, predictably, met the presidential edict with approval. Aleksandr Zdanovich, deputy chief of the FCS Public Relations Center, told SEGODNYA's correspondent that the restoration of investigation bodies—in his opinion, unreasonably abolished in December 1993 in the process of reorganizing the Security Ministry as the FCS—directly responds to state interests in intensifying the struggle against especially dangerous crimes.

It should be noted that representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Prosecutor's Office have repeatedly noted that the investigation of criminal cases, which

earlier referred to the jurisdiction of the Security Ministry (espionage, smuggling, and so forth), proved to be a fairly complicated task for the latter owing to the investigators' overload and their insufficient qualifications in this highly specific sphere.

To sum up, Yeltsin's edict last year on dissolving the Security Ministry, caused by the president's opinion that "... the state security system of the Russian Federation has outlived itself, is ineffective and burdensome on the state budget, and hinders political and economic reform," has proved to be not effective enough.

Justice Minister Yuriy Kalmykov believes that the need to step up the fight against terrorism makes the FCS' investigative functions quite legitimate. At the same time, Kalmykov does not rule out that in the future it would be logical to merge all investigation structures under a single leadership.

FCS Official on Migration, Smuggling

LD2511143594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1241 GMT 25 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Viktor Kondratyev, head of the Federal Counterintelligence Service's Primorsky branch, feels that the Russian lawmakers are late with the drafting and adoption of legislation on fighting organized crime and the inflow of foreigners.

He said at a news conference in Vladivostok Friday [25 November] that nearly 600,000 citizens of neighboring countries passed the Primorsky Territory in 1993 alone. According to Kondratyev, this amounted to a creeping occupation but the lawmakers are very slow in adopting legislation on migration of foreigners in Russia.

Kondratyev said that in the absence of a treaty with Japan on cooperation between the special services of the two countries no effective steps could be taken in preventing Russian sailors from smuggling weapons and drugs into Japan.

Human Rights Commissioner Criticizes Edict

MK2411082094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 24 Nov 94 p 2

[SEGODNYA report under the "Reaction" rubric: "Human Rights Activists Dissatisfied With Widening of FCS Functions"]

[FBIS Translated Text] It has been recalled in the Commission for Human Rights led by Sergey Kovalev that the detaching of "the investigation directorate from the former [K]GB" was regarded as one of the foremost "democratic achievements in the fight to scrap the Soviet punitive state security organs." It has been stated in Kovalev's commission that "the reinstatement of such structures once again proves that in our country you can chop off one head of the dragon after another, only to see new ones growing in their place, because the communist body of this dragon is still alive and intact."

Commission members are convinced that the reinstatement of the investigation function to the state security body "was achieved under pressure of forces among the Chekists, and President Yeltsin may yet regret he yielded to this pressure." Some public figures are inclined to link the appearance of such an edict with the State Duma's passing in first reading of a law on the FCS [Federal Counterintelligence Service] granting state security organs the possibility to "suspend" almost with no control the most important rights of citizens.

Prosecutor Discusses Kholodov Case, Suspects

MM2411134994 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 24 Nov 94 First Edition p 8

[ITAR-TASS report: "People Are Standing Up for Journalists"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The first suspects in the case of Dmitriy Kholodov, who died as a result of the explosion at the MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS editorial office 17 October, have already emerged. One has been arrested.

According to Russian Deputy General Prosecutor Oleg Gaydanov, analysis of the materials linked with the killing of the MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS correspondent gives reason to believe that his death is most likely linked with his professional activity and possibly with the articles that he was working on at the time.

Examination indicates that a boobytrap bomb—of the kind found in the Ground Forces arsenal—was planted in the "deadly attache case" that exploded at the MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS editorial office. The force of the blast was equivalent to 150-200 grams of TNT. The mine was wrapped in an October issue of one of the supplements of the weekly ARGUMENTY I FAKTY, which is primarily circulated in Moscow.

Mikhail Yegorov, chief of the Russian MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] Organized Crime Directorate and first deputy internal affairs minister, said that 370 people have been interrogated in this case, among them representatives of the "power structures." And Nikolay Kovalev, deputy director of the Federal Counterintelligence Service, confirmed that a task force is working around the clock.

Ministry Cancels 'Airworthiness' Certificates

MM2411135594 Moscow TRUD in Russian 24 Nov 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Forced Landing"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Forty-four Russian airlines have had their airworthiness certificates temporarily suspended for serious violations revealed in the course of comprehensive checks into their safety status carried out on the initiative of the Russian Ministry of Transport.

This was announced yesterday by Oleg Trufanov, deputy head of the ministry's Air Transport Department.

"Because of the seriousness of the violations, the checks, which were carried out by six special teams, forced us to make the decision to strip around 10 companies of their airworthiness certificates for over six months," Grigoriy Linnok, head of the Air Transport Department's Certification Department, said. According to him, the others have been barred from flying for up to three months. The offenders included a number of companies providing charter flights abroad. Around five or six have rectified the violations, and they have been permitted to resume flying.

CIS Experts Analyze Air Accident Causes

MM2411100194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Nov 94 p 15

[Report by Viktor Belikov: "CIS Air Experts: Given Current Discipline and Practices in Civil Aviation the Number of Crashes Will Increase. Interstate Aviation Committee Analysis of the Causes of the Unprecedented Accident Rate on Our Airlines"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Some representatives of a very unusual profession—60 top-class air accident investigators from the CIS countries—met last week at the Interstate Aviation Committee. Each of the seminar participants had a wealth of experience of work as pilot, flight engineer, or air traffic controller. Their collective assessment of the current accident situation on the Commonwealth countries' airlines is not just alarming—it will dismay anyone who has been a passenger on an aircraft even once.

Although 1994 is not yet over it is clear already that it will be the worst in the history of civil aviation in the CIS (and the former USSR). Between the beginning of the year and the middle of November there were 57 recorded air incidents, including 18 crashes which cost the lives of 318 people. Compare this with the whole of 1993, when there were 106 incidents, including 14 crashes resulting in 197 fatalities.

The professionals were bound to be worried by the comparison provided by these grim statistics on the number of aircraft written off, that is, broken up: Last year it was 48, this year only 35 aircraft and helicopters. The one-fourth reduction in the number of aircraft destroyed given an overall increase in the number of fatalities leads to the depressing conclusion that more so-called heavy passenger aircraft on regular services are crashing.

The experts stated that regular services (scheduled flights) accounted for eight incidents, but three crashes led to the deaths of 228 passengers and crew. In 1993 there were two crashes and 194 fatalities. The worst offenders are Tu-154, Tu-134, An-24, and Yak-40 aircraft.

The report by flight safety commission chairman R. Teymurazov and the contributions from Interstate Aviation Committee seminar participants contained a detailed analysis of the obvious decline in the standard of reliability of our aircraft as mass passenger transport.

The chief cause is the human factor, in other words, gross violations by air traffic controllers and flight crew of the rules governing the safe operation of aircraft. A fateful, one might say, sinister role is played by ill-conceived "market relations," which are eating away at the old established air transport system like rust.

There is frequent mention, for example, of overloaded aircraft or disregard for the center of gravity in order to make extra profit every trip. Crews paying cash for fuel at "foreign" airports are taking on the minimum amount—again out of "economic expediency." As a result they sometimes lack the reserves of kerosene to be able to go on to an emergency airfield if necessary. They have to land even if weather conditions have deteriorated drastically, which is bound to lead to accidents, particularly when the pilots often are not properly trained to make such difficult landings.

As for crew training, it was noted at the seminar that one of the most likely causes of the crash of the A-310 Airbus near Mezhdurechensk was the Russian pilots' unfamiliarity with the controls of a West European-made aircraft. The problem becomes particularly acute and significant in connection with the influx of foreign aircraft into CIS countries' airlines.

Incidentally, it turns out that the black box recordings of the flight parameters of Boeings and Airbuses cannot be decoded by Russian equipment, which has quite different specifications. So trips are made without objective monitoring facilities to analyze the progress of the flight. It is getting to the point where accident situations have to be roughly assessed later. Economies by aircraft factories do not allow for expensive decoding of black box recordings.

The purely practical, specialist seminar was not intended to elaborate any general recommendations on flight safety "rules." Particularly as these rules were established long ago and are incorporated in flight operation manuals and instructions. They need only be strictly adhered to everywhere and in all things if we want to reverse the very dangerous trend of increasing accidents involving aircraft. As current practice shows, this is the most difficult professional duty of aviators.

Economic Issues

Ministry on Lower Food Production, Higher Imports

LD2411205794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1923
GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russia's Agriculture and Food Ministry puts this year's total domestic output of meat

and meat products at 3.1 million tonnes, that of whole milk products at 6.4 million tonnes, that of butter at 475,000 tonnes and that of vegetable oil at 780,000 tonnes, which respectively accounts for 75, 82, 68 and 78 percent of last year's amounts.

The state of sugar production is "particularly alarming," a ministry official told Interfax: this year's output of it is not expected to exceed 2.6 million tonnes, which is 67 percent what was produced in 1993. What explains this is a poorer sugar beet harvest, which in 1994 is unlikely to top 15 million tonnes, compared to last year's 25.5 million. That, in turn, has been caused by cuts in total area under the crop (trimmed to 222,000 hectares - 17 percent down on last year) and lower yield, which went down from 2.7 tonnes per hectare in 1993 to 1.9 tonnes this year.

In the meantime, Russia has kept increasing its imports of some food items, experts say. In the 10 months from January to October, the country imported 325,000 tonnes of frozen meat, 314,000 tonnes of poultry and 154,000 tonnes of butter, which is respectively 390, 500, and 200 percent up on the same period last year.

However, in the same 10 months Russia bought abroad only 2.7 million tonnes of grain, 812,000 tonnes of raw sugar and 928,000 tonnes of refined sugar - 71, 49, and 17 percent down on the same period in 1993.

Yeltsin Signs Industrial Production Decree

LD2411175394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1617
GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed a decree on additional measures to stimulate the industrial production, including by attracting foreign investments, the presidential press office told Interfax Thursday.

The document was issued to support enterprises' investment activities and speed up the development of the national industries.

The decree made exempt from customs duties all materials, equipment, devices and spare parts, except for those liable to excise duties, imported to Russia for the industrial development of enterprises, bodies and organizations in the settlement of contracts concluded and properly registered before January 1 1993 as well as those imported under credits granted by foreign states or international financial institutions.

Yeltsin instructed the government to submit a draft law to make goods mentioned above exempt from customs duties for consideration by the Federal Assembly within a month.

Moscow Looks To Change Oil Balance Guidelines

LD2411095594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0625
GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russia proposes to change the guidelines for making up the balances of oil and oil

products if the fuel export quotas are lifted, a source in the Russian government told the Petroleum Information Agency.

He said that the payable demand of Russia's regions, federal needs and the amounts to be exported would be recognized in making up the balances.

Under the existing regulations on distribution of oil and refinery products, the making up of balances is the responsibility of the Economy and Fuel and Energy Ministries which determine the amounts to be consumed inside the country and exported. The annual and additional export quotas are assigned to businesses by the Russian government's daily management commission.

When this practice is discontinued, the source believes, the oil companies will have to work out balances of oil and product production and consumption which will reflect the agreements signed with the country's regions and the potential of free sales inside and outside Russia. The companies will be required to keep the consumers supplied.

The Fuel and Energy Ministry is expected to accumulate the data from the oil companies in its own balance which would allow for the export for the state needs, the amount of which will be determined by the Economy Ministry.

The Petroleum Information Agency found that the state-owned Rosneft company which runs non-privatized oil installations in Russia had forecast a 1995 balance. It plans to extract 121,726,000 tonnes of oil in 1995 or which 27,324,000 will be exported.

Parliament on Credits To West, 1995 Budget

MK2311144094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in
Russian 23 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Andrey Bagrov: "The Hearings Took Place Behind Closed Doors"]

[FBIS Translated Text] For the first time since the previous Supreme Soviet, the Russian parliament has returned to the practice of closed hearings on economic matters. Yesterday, behind closed doors, the State Duma discussed the Russian foreign debt problem. The parliamentarians were so inhospitable primarily because the ultimate formulation of the federal 1995 budget today depends on the foreign debt situation.

In spite of the express mysteriousness of the hearings, their progress and outcome could essentially be predicted beforehand. Obviously, the participants spoke with special interest about using new Western credits to cover part of next year's budget deficit: This original idea became a component part of the 1995 federal budget concept. Of the planned 72 trillion rubles budget deficit, 30.6 trillion (or 42.5 percent) is proposed to be covered

from outside financial sources. Predictably, the parliamentarians expressed their bewilderment over the government's confidence that new Western credits for closing the budget deficit will indeed be received, especially considering the present foreign debt situation. No official explanations were made on this count, however: Vice Premier Oleg Davydov, overseeing this problem, is accompanying Viktor Chernomyrdin on a tour of Persian Gulf states, while Aleksandr Shokhin, who was present at the hearings and who as former vice premier was Russia's chief foreign debt negotiator, can now be regarded as a mouthpiece of the official government position on the issue only with a measure of irony.

Meanwhile the current foreign debt situation is quite noteworthy. According to unofficial information announced at the hearings, the aggregate sum of Russian debts has reached \$112.7 billion. According to official data, the overall debt of the former USSR is \$80 billion (Russia's main partner at the debt rescheduling negotiations is the Paris Club of creditor states, which Russia owes \$50 billion; the second largest creditor is the London club of private banks: \$24 billion; and finally, the Russian Government owes \$6 billion to private firms). Citing government sources, however, the figure of \$103.9 billion was mentioned as foreign debts inherited by Russia from the USSR. For its part Russia is owed approximately \$160 billion. Oleg Davydov proposes that debts be primarily paid to private firms while debts to the Paris and London clubs be postponed to a later date. Such an approach, rather than reducing debt service payments, can lead to a situation wherein Russia will have to pay debts on the least favorable terms because the hopes of getting out of making substantial payments to official creditors are not destined to materialize.

Even so, the experience of Russia's interrelations with its creditors shows that even the most irrational policy followed by Russian authorities in the foreign debt sphere is not necessarily an obstacle to getting new credits: And in this respect the government's budget plans are not doomed to failure. Actually the government is offering the West a deal: credits in exchange for at least a semblance of budgetary stabilization. Quite possibly, the West will be ready to accept it.

Official on Foreign Debt, Former USSR Credits

LD2311144794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1123 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] As of January 1, 1994 Russia's aggregate debt to foreign creditors was \$112.7 billion, deputy head of the currency-credit department under Russia's Foreign Economic Relations Ministry, Yuriy Gromushkin, reported to Interfax on Wednesday.

He explained that this debt is the result of credits received by Russia from international organizations and foreign governments beginning with 1992—totaling \$8.8 billion, and of credits granted to the former USSR amounting to \$103.9 billion. Russia owes over \$80

billion of this sum to Western countries, members of the Paris and London clubs, about \$20 billion—to all its other creditors, including South Korea, Persian Gulf countries, among others.

Being the legal successor of the former USSR, the Russian Federation took the obligation to service the USSR's entire debt, including the share of the former Soviet republics which have transferred their part of former USSR assets to Russia.

Forecasts of the Russian foreign debt rising to \$130 billion by the end of 1995 are connected with preliminary assessments of the size of Russia's likely new borrowings in the immediate future.

Foreign Investments Increase in Stock Market

MM2311163494 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Nov 94 p 1

[INTERFAX report: "West Spending \$500 Million a Month on Shares in Our Companies"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign capital investments used to buy blocs of shares in Russian enterprises on the stock exchange are running at \$500 million-\$700 million a month, whereas back at the start of the year they were no more than \$30 million-\$50 million. First Deputy Economy Minister Yakov Urinson stated in an interview with the FINANSOVYYE IZVESTIYA agency.

Chubays Opposes Cancellation of Foreign Debt

LD2511150294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1433 GMT 25 Nov 94

[By BUSINESS-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 25 Nov—First Vice Premier Anatoliy Chubays has come out firmly against any writing off of Russia's foreign debt. During a conversation with journalists at the State Duma today, he stressed that Russia had always had a reputation as a country that always discharges its international financial commitments and pays its debts. Russia is not now going to stand before the whole world as a country that is unable to pay its way, A. Chubays said.

However, the first vice premier did say that it is necessary to carry out a "profound restructuring of the Russian foreign debt."

According to data made public in parliament this week, the Russian Federation's state foreign debt amounted on 1 January 1994 to \$112.7 billion. By the end of 1995, it could have increased to \$130.3 billion.

Ministries Vie To Settle Oil Export Questions

MM2511135394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Nov 94 p 1

[Report by Mikhail Berger: "The Question of Freedom for Our Exports Could Cost at Least \$7 Billion"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the upper echelons recently there have been particularly heated and even fierce discussions over the problem of export quotas for oil and petroleum products. Statements on the continuation of market reforms presuppose the further liberalization of foreign trade, including the trade in energy sources. The situation regarding the supply of fuel to domestic consumers (the gasoline crisis in Moscow and the frozen northern territories), however, provides ammunition for the opponents of unregulated oil exports.

By an irony of fate the problem of export quotas and licenses for energy sources is "celebrating" its third anniversary now. Many people have probably already forgotten that it was in November 1991 that the first set of presidential edicts, prepared by Yegor Gaydar's team, appeared. The edict on the liberalization of foreign trade was a crucial one.

Freedom for exporters was supposed to begin on 1 July 1992, then on 1 January 1993, then on the next "economic Monday"—1 January 1994.

The latest "solemn" promise to abolish all export quotas and licenses was formulated in the president's special edict of 23 May this year in his well-known package of spring economic edicts. Skeptical liberal observers stated at that time that they were shocked by the revolutionary nature of this edict but they asked for a delay until 1 July 1994 when the promised freedom was supposed to begin. July 1 came but freedom didn't. Instead what happened on that day was that the president issued a new edict on this theme interpreting the previous revolutionary paper to mean that 1 January 1995 would mark the beginning of an even tougher and more comprehensive regulation of oil exports.

Over the past three years the keen debate between the liberals and the "practitioners" in the government over whether or not to supply Russian energy sources to the free market has first erupted, then died down. The liberals consider this necessary. The "practitioners" claim that export freedom will hit Russian domestic consumers (the echoes of this debate can be "heard" in the reportage by our correspondent in icy Arkhangelsk published in today's issue of IZVESTIYA).

There are at least two reasons for the latest eruption of the government debate on oil exports. First, the position of the liberals has strengthened considerably in the government; the second (and perhaps the "main") reason is that Russia is hoping to receive big money—around \$7.5 billion—from the international financial organizations in the very near future.

The 1995 budget policy also hinges on that money. It should be said that Russia is close to receiving those credits. The sole but absolutely insuperable obstacle is the retention of the oil and petroleum products export quota system.

The signal that Russia might not get the promised billions was given by the IMF decision to withhold its

promised credit to another CIS state—Belorussia [Belarus]. INTERFAX has reported that the IMF has suspended discussion of the allocation of a \$308 million credit to Belorussia. The reason is the Belorussian president's edict on restoring prices to the levels of early November.

So the passion for state regulation could cost Russia very dear as well. First Vice Premier Anatoliy Chubays and Economics Minister Yevgeniy Yasin, addressing Tuesday's session of the KOV [expansion unknown], demanded very firmly that the quota system be abolished. Furthermore, the Economics Ministry's forecasts show that even with complete export liberalization there will not be a price explosion.

However, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations insists on retaining oil export regulation. But what about the credits? The Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations has officially submitted proposals to the government which would formally scrap export quotas but in fact retain full state control over them. The foreign economic department is proposing to introduce as of 1 January 1995 a balance for the consumption of oil and petroleum products in the domestic market. Thus these are not export quotas, it seems, but a purely internal matter. In practice what this will mean is that the government is ratifying a domestic oil consumption balance which in principle is hardly different from internal licensing. In other words, the oil that is produced will be distributed by the state to domestic consumers.

But in order to export oil you first have to produce it in Russia and here the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations is already lying in wait to impose its conditions on potential exporters.

Oleg Davydov, vice premier for foreign economic policy and minister for foreign economic relations, added a memorandum to those proposals in which he said that almost all the economic departments are in agreement except the Economic Ministry. It remains to be seen whose arguments prove stronger: those of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations or those of the Economics Ministry?

Yasin Announces End of Oil Price Regulation

LD2411203194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1923 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] On January 1, 1995 the Russian Government intends to fully give up the regulation of the prices of oil and oil products in the domestic market. In practice this means that the last administrative barrier will be removed that sets a 50 percent ceiling on the profitability of oil extracting companies.

This was disclosed Thursday in an exclusive interview with the Financial Information Agency by the Economics Minister Yevgeniy Yasin.

He said the step is largely formal because for objective reasons the profitability of the oil industry has not exceeded 20-30 percent for a long time.

"If the figure grows, the 37 trillion of debts in the industry will increase by at least a half, and the drop in demand will hit oil extraction hard", the minister said.

Yasin described as a more radical and effective step the planned abolition of oil and oil product export quotas as well as the possible elimination of the group of special exporters. If the procedure is radically revised, the question of oil exports will be decided solely by producers and customers which will change the balance of resources directed to the international and domestic markets, Yasin said.

Still he does not think that the abolition of quotas and deregulation of exports can lead to the uncontrolled exportation of oil to the detriment of Russian interests. The minister suggested introducing export duties that would even out oil prices in the domestic and international markets. In this case the incentive will disappear for large-scale exports forming the foundation for saturating the Russian market with oil products.

However, the minister refused to name concrete changes in the size of export duties saying it is necessary to discuss his proposals with the cabinet (most experts predict that customs duties will drop from 30 to 22-25 ECU's for a ton of oil).

Yasin thinks the prices of oil and oil products will stabilize in Russia quite fast but at a higher level. Oil prices are expected to grow 100 percent.

Independent experts believe this will be caused by a growing demand for fuel and energy in the country following the deregulation of exports rather than inflation and growing extraction costs.

Military & Space Issues

Koshelev Forwards Trade Union Appeal on 'Worry'

MK2511111094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 25 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Andrey Nikolayev under the "Trade Unions": "Ground Forces Workers Complain to President. Defense Ministry Not Sufficiently Concerned for Them"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Valentin Koshelev, Ground Forces Workers and Servicemen Trade Union Central Committee chairman, has forwarded an appeal, signed by nearly 50,000 union activists, to the president of Russia, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, Federation Council Chairman Vladimir Shumeyko, and State Duma Speaker Ivan Rybkin. The message voices "extreme worry over the situation" shaping up in "the work collectives of military units," military educational

establishments, institutions, organizations, and enterprises of the military districts owing to tardy financing of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry, the widening gap between the salaries and the minimum living standard, and owing to interruptions in electricity, water supply, and heating.

Valentin Koshelev has stated that, as a result of systematic delays in payment for finished products to the profit-and-loss-accounting enterprises and of "exorbitant taxes" collected regardless of when the enterprises get paid, servicemen have not been paid their salary for months, not been paid their vacation money, and not been given social entitlements and guarantees provided for in collective agreements. Enterprises are forced to pay fines for failing to pay on time toward state and local budgets, pension and other funds, their suppliers and contractor enterprises.

In the meantime, according to Mr. Koshelev, "a social explosion is brewing in many collectives" because measures being taken by the Russian Federation Defense Ministry "are unable to radically change the current situation."

Defense Fuel Debt Increases, Reserves 'Critical'

LD2311211194 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1930 GMT 23 Nov 94

[From the "Radio Slavyanka" program of the Russian Defense Ministry]

[FBIS Translated Text] The other day the government announced its intention to carry out the latest price liberalization and this was done while the Defense Ministry's debts to fuel suppliers are continuing to grow. Reserves of energy resources have not been created in military districts and in the fleets. Thus by 1 November only 47 percent of the coal supply plan had been fulfilled. For the purchase of solid fuel at November prices R252,000 million was required. Debts to gas suppliers at that time exceeded R27,000 million. Because of this, in Vorkuta, Yakutsk, and a number of garrisons in Moscow oblasts, gas supplies have been extremely limited of late. This has not made it possible to bring boilers up to operational conditions even at above-zero temperatures. In individual garrisons of the Northern and Pacific fleets, the fuel oil reserve in November reached a critical level.

According to the information of our military journalist colleagues, if the debts of the Defense Ministry are not paid off from the federal budget and the volume of financing of Army and Navy needs is reduced through plan and budget, then free prices could be the final straw reducing people to despair.

Commission Works To Improve Military Payments

MK2411093094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 24 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Vladislav Borodulin: "The Government Has Promised To Foot 70 Percent of the Military Bill"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Perhaps for the first time in its existence, the government commission on improving the payments and settlements system yesterday discussed the problem of arrears in a clearly nonproduction sphere: the army. At first sight the resolution of this problem lies on the political plane: to pay or not to pay from the deficit-ridden budget. Today, however, it is especially important for the authorities to demonstrate their attention to army problems: The upcoming discussion of the 1995 budget in parliament could become fatal for the Chernomyrdin cabinet, and the attempt at least somewhat to neutralize the opponents appears quite appropriate.

The commission leadership decided that the discussion of the problem of nonpayment by the state to its army should be closed to the press. Mass media representatives were allowed only to the so-called "parquet"—the first several minutes of the sessions. After that, Oleg Soskovets, citing "an abundance of confidential information," left commission members one to one with Defense Ministry representatives."

The gist of the statements by the military was that according to their estimates, 87.8 trillion rubles was required this year for a "normal" functioning of the army. A compromise figure—55 trillion—could also suit the ministry, but this year's budget provides for military spending of 40.6 trillion. The military's irritation is aggravated by the fact that even the money promised by the government is not being fully released by the Finance Ministry. According to various estimates, the debt ranges from 1 trillion to 5 trillion rubles. Such substantial discrepancies are due to the fact that the Defense Ministry includes into state arrears also the indebtedness on state order payments.

Yesterday, however, there was no discussion as such: Settlements with the army must be made in full, above all on salaries to officers and enlisted men—this was the thrust of statements by commission members. To be sure, traditional qualifications were made to the effect that priorities need to be defined while funds must be dissipated. In the end, on Oleg Soskovets' insistence, it was decided that the government must undertake to finance 70 percent of the military spending envisioned in this year's budget. Anatoliy Chubays is skeptical of the feasibility of such pledges. According to him, the government was originally planning to ensure a 66-percent execution but in fact it will be between 62 and 64 percent. In this situation, however, the specific figures of military budget execution are not so important after all. The government acutely needs allies in debates on the 1995 budget. In this respect yesterday's session was called upon somewhat to mitigate the negative effects of the sharp statements made by the country's political leadership this year: the president's, on the need drastically to downsize the army; and the premier's, that Russia does not need that many howitzers.

'Cosmos-2297' Satellite Reaches Orbit

LD2411221794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1640 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Gritsenko]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 24 Nov—The Cosmos-2297 military satellite launched today by the Russian military space forces from the Baykonur space centre has been placed in an orbit with the following parameters: period of revolution, 101.996 minutes; orbital inclination, 70.99 degrees; apogee, 879.48 km; perigee, 851.32 km, an ITAR-TASS correspondent learned from the military space forces press center.

Forces Announce Successful ICBM Test Launch

LD2511093794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0819 GMT 25 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 25 TASS—The Russian strategic missile forces have successfully launched an intercontinental ballistic missile with multiple dummy warheads from the Baykonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on Thursday.

The missile has long been on combat duty in a Russian unit and the main aim of the launch was to check the reliability of its systems, Tass was told at the press centre of the Russian strategic forces today.

Military experts assessed the launch as successful. "All the dummy warheads hit the designated areas which confirms the high reliability of Russian strategic missiles", they told TASS.

Media Issues

Yeltsin Objects to State-Supported Media

LD2411135994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1346 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 24 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin assessed the law on the state support for the mass media, passed by the Duma, as "a return to the monopoly of opinions" and as "a covert form of political censorship".

The law passed "despite resolute protests of democratic public, prominent workers in science and the arts, despite the stand of democratic and independent press," poses a danger "to the most important gain of Russian democracy—the freedom of speech", says the statement of the head of state circulated by the presidential press service on Thursday.

"As guarantor of the constitution and democratic rights of Russian citizens, I do declare that I cannot tolerate the encroachment on the freedom of speech and the press.

Therefore I will take the necessary measures to avert this menace to Russian democracy", the statement says.

Filatov Recommends 'Compatible' Team Members

LD2311174394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1602 GMT 23 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 23 TASS—Head of the newly-created Presidential Information Department and presidential spokesman have to be "compatible" in order to work as one team, chief of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's Administration Sergey Filatov said.

Filatov has recommended the president to appoint Sergey Nosovets, 36, as head of his Information Department. However, Yeltsin has apparently decided to wait until his aides find a replacement for his outgoing spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov.

The president believes that the head of the Information Department and a new spokesman have to be psychologically compatible to act as one team. In addition, the spokesman has the rank of presidential aide and his status is higher than that of the Information Department chief, and therefore the latter's candidacy has to suit the former.

Filatov told ITAR-TASS that he will oversee the presidential Information Department, while the new spokesman will be subordinate to Yeltsin's right-hand man Viktor Ilyushin, who heads the team of presidential aides.

Filatov said he and Ilyushin have no disagreements over the plan of the reorganization of the presidential administration, which will in particular abolish duplicating offices, including the Department of Information Support, the operative information centre and the press service. They will be transformed into one single information department.

Print Media Competes For Government Subsidies

MK2511140094 Moscow OBSHCAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 47/72 25 Nov-1 Dec 94 (Signed to press 24 Nov) p 12

[Own correspondent's report: "Gimme More"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Commission on Subsidies (coordinator Aleksey Morgun, acting deputy chairman of the Russian Press Committee), tasked with allocating taxpayers' money among the needy mass media, held its regular meeting recently. Apart from publications that traditionally need the government's helping hand (newspapers and magazines for the disabled, children's publications, the NOVYY MIR magazine as Russia's national treasure) those who are not disabled—KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, PRAVDA, and some others—also received subsidies.

Thus the principle of political neutrality in the commission's work was strictly upheld. For those who do not know, this principle is called democratic. I hope, however, that the budget funds do not suddenly end up in ZAVTRA's pocket for the sake of strengthening democracy. As a matter of fact, the NASH SOVREMENNIK magazine was denied budget prop-ups this time around. The 1995 draft budget calls for 144 billion rubles to be earmarked to support the Russian press, against 111 billion in 1994. It seems that the tussle for these billions is about to flare up with a new intensity.

Russian Television on Abandonment of Merger Plan

MK2311124094 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 23 Nov 94 p 1

[Report by Elina Nikolayeva: "Less Good and Versatile Television! New Staff Games Around Russian Television"]

[FBIS Translated Text] During his meeting with representatives of the democratic intelligentsia on 18 November 1994, Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin announced the proposed merger of state television and radio companies and the appointment of "a responsible person" as chief of a new company. On 21 November the workers collective of the All-Russia State Television and Radio Company [ARSTRC] sent a letter to the president giving reasons for its concern and expressing disagreement with the announced intentions.

"... On the economic side, this merger will not help seriously to cut government expenditure on television and radio. It is well known that payments for the Communications Ministry's services account for the lion's share of this expenditure. Only 15 percent of the television and radio company's budget is being spent on making programs and maintaining its personnel. For this reason we think it essential immediately to start studying terms and conditions of converting one of the channels into a joint-stock company. Meanwhile, the other channel, upon acquiring the status of state channel, could be financed from the state budget.

"... On the political side, the merger of the television and radio companies into one group would cause the support base for democratic transformations and economic reform to shrink... Journalists and technicians of the ARSTRC, many of whom left the USSR State Television and Radio for ideological reasons, are deeply disappointed with the prospect of a merger with another collective...

"... On the legal side, it is impossible to merge companies with two different types of organization: one of them was registered as a mass media company ("Ostankino"), while the other is a state enterprise (ARSTRC). It should be recalled that last year, thanks to your support, our company was transformed into a state enterprise.

... Last time the workers collective held a similar meeting to resist the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet's attempts to destroy the ARSTRC... We emphatically urge you to refrain from signing an edict on merging the television and radio companies, and immediately receive representatives of the boards of directors and workers collectives of the two television and radio companies to discuss the situation."

Yesterday:

- Poptsov and Lysenko sent a personal message to Yeltsin...
- Zhirinovskiy's press center promised the ARSTRC its support...
- Press Secretary Kostikov promised that the president would refrain from ill-conceived steps...
- The artistic intelligentsia under Baklanov and Ivanov gathered in the Kremlin once again...
- Artem Borovik: The president is evidently being pushed toward the decision that alternative state television is no longer needed...
- Moscow journalists received information from various sources that V. Markov, chief of RIA-NOVOSTI, was appointed head of the joint company as early as 21 November. Markov himself claimed yesterday, however, that this is not true...
- Yesterday B.N. Yeltsin received S. Davydov, director of Russian Radio (?—E.N.). The flurry of incoherent moves regarding the ARSTRC continues...

ARSTRC Chairman Oleg Poptsov:

"This is yet another trick of the president's bureaucrats. Undoubtedly, like any other entourage, the presidential entourage has opposing forces—this has always been the case around any head of state. The companies cannot be merged. The ARSTRC is a great achievement of democracy. We have built a giant, powerful, formidable television and radio company—only to destroy it now?! I oppose this!.."

"Vesti" news program announcers say that "despite everything, Russian Television continues its work." But there can no longer be normal work in such conditions. ARSTRC workers are excited and fretful—all their talk centers on the fate of their television alone. State Television management is rushing to comb through the contents of programs that might have the least bearing on politics. They do not wish to irritate the president by anything in anticipation of crucial decisions he announces. Even the above appeal to the president—which is uncharacteristic of usually sharp-tongued journalists—is written throughout in the form of a diplomatic note.

As for the 18 November meeting in the Kremlin between the president and the intelligentsia, one can say that the

conscience of the nation has once again been drawn into politics from which it (the conscience) is trying to keep as far away from as possible. Will the sole practical result of the Yeltsin-intelligentsia meeting be the breakup of the ARSTRC, which in the view of certain powers that be has gained "too much freedom" and for this reason has fallen from grace on the eve of the political battles of 1995-1996?

P.S. According to reports from independent, well-informed sources, numerous memos on the television subject have been circulating in top offices recently, proposing that television be improved, reformed, and so forth. In particular, Prime Minister Chernomyrdin appeared to support proposals that originated with the ARSTRC, namely that "Ostankino" be converted into a joint-stock company and Russian Television be turned into a state channel and fed from the budget in a normal fashion. But there is another lobby on high, however, and what in the end found its way onto the president's desk was a memo drawn up in Ostankino's corridors of power proposing that the channels be merged. Yuriy Baturin, presidential national security adviser, is known to oppose these steps. Many ARSTRC staffers are certain that there is somebody in Yeltsin's entourage who has long and maliciously been trying to undermine their company.

Federal Assembly

State Duma Urges Veto To Stop Bosnia Intervention

LD2311181594 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1700 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Russia's State Duma today adopted a statement in connection with the sharp exacerbation of the Yugoslav conflict. As we have already reported, NATO aircraft today carried out bomb strikes against the positions of Bosnian Serbs in the area of Bihac. Prior to this, on Monday, NATO planes bombed an airfield in Serb Krajina on the territory of Croatia.

The State Duma statement notes that these actions, despite the fact that the UN had given its consent to them, were not essential.

It also contains an appeal to the president and the Russian Foreign Ministry to use more actively all political and diplomatic means in the UN Security Council, including even the right of veto, to prevent military intervention from outside on the territory of former Yugoslavia.

In an ITAR-TASS interview, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karasin noted that the new attacks by NATO planes on the positions of the Bosnian Serbs would not lead to anything other than a continuation of the bloodshed.

Duma Criticizes NATO Intervention in Yugoslavia*LD2511100094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0852 GMT 25 Nov 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 25 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—The State Duma urged all sides involved in the conflict in former Yugoslavia to cease fire immediately and to return to political dialogue. This message is contained in a statement adopted by the chamber at today's plenary sitting.

"The irresponsible behavior of the sides involved in the conflict, the UN inaction during the offensive of the Bosnian Government forces, and the United States' unilateral decision to withdraw from enforcement of the embargo on arms supplies to Bosnia-Herzegovina all provoked an escalation in hostilities, which led to more casualties," the deputies state.

In the view of the State Duma, the latest bombings in Serb Krajina and Bosnia cannot be justified. "The impression is that the United Nations is increasingly being used as a cover for a NATO military intervention in the civil war in former Yugoslavia, thus discrediting the very idea of UN peacekeeping," the statement says.

The State Duma urged the president and the Russian Foreign Ministry to use, in the contact group for Yugoslavia and at the UN Security Council, all political and diplomatic means available, including, if necessary, the use of veto in the Security Council, in order to prevent military intervention from abroad in former Yugoslavia. The chamber deems it necessary, if any threat to the personal safety of Russian servicemen emerges, to discuss the possibility of withdrawing the Russian peacekeeping contingent from Yugoslavia.

Report on Kokoshin's Briefing on Nuclear Forces*MK2311102094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Nov 94 p 2*

[NG report under the "Armaments" rubric: "Andrey Kokoshin Sees Development of Strategic Nuclear Forces as a Crucial Priority"]

[FBIS Translated Text] As NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA has already reported, the State Duma has held a discussion on problems of the Russian Strategic Nuclear Forces (SNF). A report on the subject was delivered by First Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin. The hearings were also attended by Yuriy Glybin, first deputy chairman of the State Defense Industry Committee; Colonel-General Igor Sergeyev, commander in chief of the Strategic Missile Forces; Feliks Gromov, commander in chief of the Navy; Mikhail Soroka, deputy commander in chief of the Air Force; Viktor Barynkin, chief of the General Staff's Main Operational Administration; and also a group of general designers

and general directors of defense enterprises. They discussed in detail priorities in the development of all three components of the Russian Strategic Nuclear Forces and matters relating to Russia's new nuclear policy. Among other things, Andrey Kokoshin pointed out the particular importance of developing combat command and control systems of the Russian Strategic Nuclear Forces, and of increasing their reliability and stability in combat.

According to the Russian Federation military doctrine, Andrey Kokoshin said, the Strategic Nuclear Forces are the key fundamental element of the Armed Forces that ensure Russia's national security. The Armed Forces' reform is being carried out under the SNF's umbrella. The existence of these forces is the main factor of deterring nuclear aggression and averting large-scale conventional wars against Russia and its allies.

Commission Disagrees With Government on Oil Spill*LD2211182894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1619 GMT 22 Nov 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Russian State Duma's commission, investigating the environmental disaster in the basin of the Pechora River as a result of the series of incidents on the Vozey-Usa oil pipeline, said it disagreed with the official assessment of the Usinsk oil spill.

The State Duma commission with the participation of Chairman of the Inter-Departmental Commission on Environmental Security of the Russian Security Council, Academician Aleksey Yablokov held an enlarged meeting today. The commission said the conclusions drawn by the Komi joint stock company, the Russian government and the Komi Republic authorities were not proved by available evidence (the assessment of the area of the incident, video films, radio radar and air-photo survey assessment).

The commission decided to continue the investigation of the environmental disaster which had affected the Pechora Region and to visit the Usinsk Region of Komi in early December this year. By that time 52 kilometers of a new section of the Vozey-Golovnye Sooruzheniya oil pipeline must be commissioned.

The commission, headed by Chairman of the Environmental Committee Mikhail Lemeshev, includes members of the parliamentary committees on the environment, natural resources and security.

The oil spill on the oil pipeline near Usinsk took place in August-September this year. The oil pipeline belongs to the Komi joint stock company. The Komi administration said at least 14,000 tonnes of oil had been spilled as a result of the incident.

The Russian-U.S. Nordeco environmental joint venture said proceeding from the air-photo survey that 103,000 tonnes of oil had been spilled. Nordeco representatives

said that oil had also leaked into the Pechora River falling into the Sea of Barents.

Western sources said the incident in Komi was the second largest disaster after the crash of the Exxon Valdez oil tanker near Alaska in 1989.

Rybkin on Conditions for Moldova Withdrawal

LD2411163294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1421 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian State Duma Chairman Ivan Rybkin is convinced that Moldovan leadership's recognition of the interests of those who reside on the Dniester east bank was the overriding condition for the pull out of the Russian 14th army from Transdnister as scheduled.

In his talks with a delegation of Romanian MPs under his counterpart Adrian Nastase he emphasized that the whole issue was essentially a subject for discussion with independent Moldova.

He was surprised by the desire of certain countries to set up and strengthen narrow local organizations and blocs rather than build a united Europe from the Atlantic Ocean to the Urals.

Rybkin said that somebody wanted Russia to be a beggar with a balalaika while Russia had always been a great power to be reckoned with.

WGF Command Said Not Involved in Irregularities

LD2411160394 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1400 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Today the defense and security committees of the State Duma and Federation Council held a closed meeting to examine instances of corruption in the Western Group of Forces [WGF]. Yevgeniy Zherebnev, our parliamentary correspondent, reports.

[Zherebnev] Many people who attended the meeting could not understand why it was held behind closed doors because the facts that were mentioned there had already been more than once quoted in the press and, properly speaking, were no secret at all. At the same time, the way the facts were interpreted, including by General [Matvey] Burlakov, former commander of the WGF himself was somewhat different. According to participants in the sitting, General Burlakov was able to prove convincingly and with the help of numerous documents that the WGF command itself was, on the whole, not involved in irregularities in the Western Group of Forces. It had only carried out instructions from above, from the Defense Ministry and the government.

Burlakov's speech is likely to show the problem of corruption in the WGF in a somewhat new light. Here is

what Viktor Ilyukhin, chairman of the State Duma security committee, told me.

[Begin Ilyukhin recording] I would like to say that many deputies, including myself, have discovered many new things for themselves. Many decisions had been taken behind Burlakov's back, at a much higher level. [end recording]

Defense Committee Chairman on Duma Hearings

LD2411144494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1144 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 24 TASS—Today's hearings at the Russian State Duma on corruption in the western grouping of Russian troops in Germany will not bring sensations, Sergey Yushenkov, chairman of the committee for defense, told ITAR-TASS in an exclusive interview.

Sergey Yushenkov believes that parliamentarians do not have the whole volume of information. Besides, Yuriy Boldyrev, former head of the control department of the Russian president's administration, will not be present at the hearings as he is on a business trip. Earlier Yuriy Boldyrev prepared a special report on corruption and could give additional facts of committed offenses.

According to Sergey Yushenkov, he does not expect former commander of the western group of troops, Colonel-General Matvey Burlakov, to be frank when he begins giving explanations to parliamentarians today.

In reply to a question about the further investigation of unlawful actions by officials from the Defense Ministry in the western grouping of troops, Sergey Yushenkov informed that the State Duma would consider this issue again in December. By that time, he believes, parliamentarians will manage to declassify many documents and then it will be possible to have a comprehensive picture of all that happened there.

The principle of distributing the military budget existing in the Russian Defense Ministry, is creating conditions for corruption, Sergey Yushenkov believes.

"Control over the Russian armed forces must be civil, and the military budget—fully open as it is the practice in other countries. Only in this event the army and the navy will be purged from corruption," the chairman of the committee for defense pointed out.

Lukyanov Cited on Duma's Rejection of Paramonova

LD2311152794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1406 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In a 127 to 107 vote, with 19 abstentions, the State Duma turned down the president-proposed candidacy of Tatyana Paramonova to the post of head of the Russian Central Bank.

Deputy Anatoliy Lukyanov (the Russian Way group) told the deputies after the vote that "a highly reputable person has not been appointed to this post," because the Constitution was violated and "the State Duma was humiliated." He believes that the deputies should discuss the resignation of former Central Bank leader Viktor Geraschenko first and then pass over to the issue of a new appointment. This particular procedure would have corresponded to the Constitution, he said.

Geraschenko was dismissed from his post by the president in the middle of October after the ruble's 'Black Tuesday' collapse on the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange. Following Geraschenko's resignation, the president appointed Paramonova acting head of the Central Bank.

The absolute majority of the members of the Duma's Committee for the Budget, Taxes, Banks and Finances passed a resolution which recommends that the State Duma endorse Paramonova's appointment to this post.

Before October 14, Paramonova was deputy leader of the Central Bank and was in charge of budget planning and the Central Bank's relations with the Finance Ministry.

Russia's Choice Faction To Support Draft Budget

LD2211183394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1711 GMT 22 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 22 TASS—The Choice of Russia faction will support basic articles of the draft 1995 federal budget and vote for basic approval of the draft.

The government offers deputies to approve a federal budget with a spending item of 216,200 billion rubles and a revenue item of 144,100 billion rubles and set the budget deficit limit at 72,000 billion rubles.

At the same time, the faction voices the need for corrections in budget allocations. In the opinion of Deputy Chairman of the Duma Committee for Budget, Taxes, Banks and Finances Aleksandr Pochinok, state spending is raised too high. "This spending can be cut both in presidential and parliamentary structures, as well as in some ministries and departments," said Pochinok.

Pochinok warned against increasing state spending, and said that the draft budget "takes into account all revenue sources and maximum results".

To Support Yeltsin Electoral Bills

MM2311160194 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Nov 94 First Edition p 1

[Report from the ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA/ITAR-TASS column: "'Russia's Choice' Decision"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The "Russia's Choice" faction will support the draft electoral laws submitted to the State Duma by President Boris Yeltsin. This was decided at a session of "Russia's Choice" members. At the same time Yegor Gaydar's supporters are not ruling out the possibility that certain provisions of the president's draft laws could be enriched by the norms laid down in the draft "Electoral Code" submitted to the Duma by the "Yabloko" faction as an alternative.

State Duma Fails To Adopt Law on Referendum

LD2311215794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1730 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, [no date as received] ITAR-TASS—The Duma was unable to adopt a draft law "On a referendum of the Russian Federation," tabled by the president. For this constitutional draft law to be adopted it would have been necessary for it to be supported by two-thirds of the corps of deputies, or 300 parliamentarians. However, only 282 deputies voted for it, with 30 against, and one abstention. A conciliation commission has been set up that has been instructed to prepare a new version of a draft law on a referendum.

Also today, the Duma adopted at a first reading a draft law "On tabling changes and additions to the criminal code of the RSFSR, and the Code of the RSFSR in administrative infringements of the law," connected with the electoral process.

Adopts Law on Mass Media 23 Nov

LD2311165094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1307 GMT 23 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 23 TASS—The State Duma, the lower house of the Russian parliament, on Wednesday adopted the law on state support for the mass media and publishing houses upon the third reading.

According to head of the Duma Information Committee Mikhail Poltoranin, who presented the document, the law will allow the mass media to get rid of poverty and to become an efficient instrument to control state authorities.

The document regulates tax, customs, currency and other financial activities of the media and privatisation of newspapers, magazines as well as printing houses.

The law provides for establishing a national fund of development of the media. The fund is designed to accumulate finances and invest them in the development of the material and technical base of the mass media and printing houses.

The fund will be a non-commercial organisation. The Russian Federation's supreme authorities are co-founders of the fund.

Under the law, the federal property needed for the development of the media will be transferred to the fund, except the property of editorial offices. The law also stipulates that finances will be allocated to the fund for projects to develop the media as part of federal budget programmes.

A board of observers will be set up to control the activities of the fund. The board will be formed by both houses of the parliament, the president and the government, each of them appointing five members to the body for a three-year term.

Regional Affairs

Yeltsin Returns After Visiting Estonian Border

LD2311183694 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian* 1710 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 23 November—After a one-day trip to Pskov oblast Russian President Boris Yeltsin returned to Moscow this evening.

The president of the Russian Federation visited the border with Estonia. After walking around the border facilities, Boris Yeltsin visited the Pechorskiy monastery and had a conversation with Archbishop of Pskov and Velikiye Vuki Yevsey. Then he went to see the construction of a settlement for resettlers near the village of Dubrovo.

In the afternoon he held a meeting with the heads of administration of Pskov and Pskov oblasts at which the president of the Russian Federation drew their attention to the decision signed by the government today which includes a special program for the socio-economic development of the border areas in Pskov oblast.

Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian* at 1744 GMT on 23 November adds the following: "At the Moscow 'Vnukovo-2' airport Boris Yeltsin told the welcoming party about the results of his working trip. The conversation, which lasted about 30 minutes, mainly touched upon problems of the Russian regions adjacent to border oblasts. Inter alia, Boris Yeltsin spoke about the results of his working trip related to the operation of check-points on the Russian-Estonian border as well as the problems of resettlers moving to Pskov Oblast from the Baltic states."

Chechen Opposition Gunships Pound Government Troops

LD2411094794 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 0926 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 24 TASS—An air strike on Chechen government troops in the Gudermesskiy district was delivered on Wednesday [23

November] evening by helicopter gunships of the Provisional Council opposing Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev, *ITAR-TASS* learnt from press secretary of the Provisional Council Ruslan Martagov on Thursday.

Besides, gunships also bombarded the Shalinskiy Tank Regiment, the main striking force of Dudayev's troops. Nine helicopters participated in air strikes.

According to Martagov, Dudayev's forces suffered considerable losses as a result of the air strikes. The size of losses is being specified.

At the same time, he refuted allegations by the Grozny authorities that there were casualties among civilians as a result of bombardments. Strikes were inflicted on earlier reconnoitered targets, he stressed.

The press secretary underlined that the gunships that pounded Dudayev's forces, belong to the Provisional Council and are manned by Chechen crews.

Martagov noted that the air operation was carried out in preparation for a capture of Grozny. According to the press secretary, opposition forces are reconnoitering terrain and gradually occupying positions at the approaches to the Chechen capital.

The opposition's preparations are aimed at avoiding casualties among civilians during an assault on Grozny, Martagov said.

Further on Helicopter Attack

LD2411075294 Moscow *INTERFAX in English* 0744 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nine persons, including seven civilians, were wounded as a result of an air strike against the Shali tank regiment stationed 35 kilometers away from Grozny, the regiment commander, Isa Daldakhov, told *Interfax*.

Daldakhov said a total of ten helicopters carrying Russian marks were engaged in the raid. Having encountered dense anti-aircraft defense, the helicopters flew away to empty their cartridges at the Shali poultry factory which was heavily damaged.

The shelling left two female factory employees and five other civilians wounded, according to Daldakhov.

Two soldiers of the Shali regiment who were on duty at the gate were also wounded. One of them is in a serious condition. The hardware of the Shali regiment, the government's main strike force, was not damaged, Daldakhov said.

Dudayev Declares Martial Law, Curfew

LD2411020594 Moscow *Radio Rossii Network in Russian* 0100 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] According to an ANI agency report, a regime of martial law was introduced today

over the whole territory of Chechnya by decree of [Chechen President] Dzhokhar Dudayev, starting at 0000, and a curfew established between 2000 and 0600. The urgent mobilization of Chechen citizens aged seventeen and over and of those liable for call-up has been announced. The institution of military commandant's office is being established in all built-up areas and at establishments of further and secondary education.

Leaders Blamed for Expanding 'Aggression'

LD2411091894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0625 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Representative of Chechen President Jokhar Dudayev in the Chief Headquarters Musa Merzhuyev told Interfax today that there existed a real danger of Russian territories close to Chechnya getting involved into the war in Chechnya.

Merzhuyev blamed the unpredictable developments in the republic on the Russian leaders who, as he believes, are enlarging the scale of the aggression in Chechnya.

The Chechen Armed Forces Chief Headquarters said another 300 Russian servicemen had "moved from Mozdok (North Ossetia) to the occupied Chechen territory" this afternoon. (Grozny considers a part of the Nadterechniy Region where the opposition Interim Council's headquarters are situated as an occupied territory).

Grozny expects Russian troops to try to break through on the Naur direction from the Veselovskoye populated center (the Stavropol Region) this night. The Chechen Chief Headquarters said about 50 items of Russian armored equipment had been concentrated there.

Merzhuyev said he believed that "while speaking about some interior Chechen conflict the Russian leaders conceal the fact of military actions waged on Chechen territory on purpose."

FSK Uncovers Foreign Agents in Krasnodar

LD2311153594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1123 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Over the last period of time the Federal Counterintelligence Service (FSK) department of the Krasnodar territory has exposed nine agents of foreign special services from the former Soviet republics and foreign countries, says a statement of the FSK press service handed over to Interfax on Wednesday [23 November].

The authors of this document express their perplexity due to the address of the LDPR leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy to Kuban's citizens in which he says that the Federal Counterintelligence Service "is entirely paralyzed and corrupted."

The Krasnodar FSK reported that among the exposed spies were employees of special services of those states

which Zhirinovskiy mentioned voicing his suspects concerning cooperation of Russian counterintelligence officers with them.

In an address to Kuban's citizens distributed earlier due to the elections to the territorial legislative assembly Zhirinovskiy declared about the FSK connections with the Israeli intelligence service and the CIA.

Urals Economic Development Conference Held

MM2511102594 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Nov 94 First Edition p 2

[ITAR-TASS report: "Urals Will Be Powerful"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The concept for the development of the Urals economy is being discussed by administration heads and academics at a conference that has opened in Izhevsk. Almost 70 leaders and scientific workers from Sverdlovsk, Perm, Chelyabinsk, Kurgan, Tyumen, and Orenburg Oblasts, Bashkiria, and Udmurtia are taking part in it.

The conference opened with a report from Gennadiy Mesyats, chairman of the Russian Academy of Sciences Urals Branch Presidium.

Gennadiy Shveykin, director of the Chemistry Institute, reported on developments in the main areas of the Federal Program for the Production of Rare and Rare-Earth Metals.

The conference participants will also be discussing a number of other questions of the region's development—from the conversion of defense enterprises to the creation of regional TV programs and the additional demarcation of powers between federal organs of state power in Russia and its components.

Bashkiria Pipeline Accident Causes Oil Spill

LD2411052794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0443 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Raul Tukhvatullin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Ufa, 24 Nov—Around 200 cubic metres of diesel fuel were spilled on the ground as a result of an accident on a pipeline belonging to Aktransnefteprodukt Joint-stock Company. The leak from a worn-out pipe occurred near the mountain village of Bayshevo in Bashkiria's Aurgazinskiy Rayon.

The fuel, which is in short supply in the [Bashkir] Republic, spread over an area of around 6,000 square meters, causing great damage to allotments.

Governor Cited on Nuclear Waste Disposal Problem

LD2311145994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1123 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In the course of the visit by a Russian delegation, headed by Russian First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets, to Japan, Yevgeniy Nazdratenko,

head of the Maritime Territory administration (the Far East), intends to raise the issue on Japan's participation in resolving the problem of nuclear waste disposal in the Maritime Territory.

Speaking at a press conference in Vladivostok, Nazdratenko pointed out that currently there are quite many retired nuclear submarines in the maritime bays. According to Nazdratenko, Far Eastern scientists have many ideas on how to use the reactors from the retired submarines.

In addition, Nazdratenko said that in the framework of this visit the Maritime Territory will raise the issue of equipment deliveries for elevators from Japan, needed by the Territory if it is to receive grain from Canada and the United States.

River Pollution From Nikolayev AES Investigated

LD2411133794 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1000 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Summary] Correspondent Ivan Petkov reports from Nikolayev oblast that the Nikolayev nuclear power station releases the technological waste waters from the AES into the Tashlykskoye cooling reservoir, from which it is then released into the South Bug River. These waters contain radionuclides, salts, oil products, and polluting heat and biological substances, which then get into the soil on irrigation. A criminal case has been instigated.

Funding Crisis Could Cause Nuclear Station Shutdown

MM2311143794 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Nov 94

[From the "Novosti" newscast—video report by Valeriy Anuchin and Oleg Kul, from Kola nuclear power station]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Anuchin] A catastrophic situation has developed at the Kola nuclear power station which supplies electricity to all the major enterprises in Murmansk Oblast and Karelia. Two of the four power units are already out of operation. Everything points to the station's grinding to a halt. In that case giant enterprises like Severonikel, the Kandalaksha aluminum plant, the Appatit Association, and many Karelian enterprises will come to a standstill. And the people working at these enterprises will be left without the means of subsistence.

Admittedly, the Murmansk Oblast Administration has compiled a draft agreement in which it assumes the role of coordinator and invites enterprises to make running payments on time and in full for the electricity they use and issue bills of exchange. But where are the enterprises to take the money from, when most of their earnings go primarily into the country's budget and various federal funds? There is no local organ which can change this order.

And so a number of debtor-enterprises have gotten together and taken out a credit of 30 billion rubles to repay at least part of the debt. But this money is barely enough to pay for the operation of the nuclear power station for one month. [passage omitted]

Several Explosions Reported in Karelia

LD2211212194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1352 GMT 22 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Zlobin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Petrozavodsk, 22 Nov—Explosions have been rocking the capital of Karelia for the last few days. It is not yet clear who is doing this and why. Luckily, there are no casualties or severe damage. The Petrozavodsk militia is looking for the unknown plotters. An ITAR-TASS correspondent learned at the Karelian Interior Ministry today that a special headquarters to investigate the explosions had been set up and criminal proceedings had been instituted.

Everything started on 18 November when a telephone call to a militia station said that a design institute had been mined. This proved a false alarm, however, and no explosive device was found. But the next day a real blast took place on the pedestrian bridge across the river Lososinka in central Petrozavodsk. Yet another blast took place near the town's jail on the 20 November. And the following day two other blasts went off near the Railwaymen House of Culture, breaking windows in the building and damaging the cars parked nearby.

The terrorists, however, did not stop at that. They made another call and said that the stage of the same House of Culture had been mined. There was a disco evening there and the building was urgently evacuated but no bomb was found. The last time the criminals phoned was on the morning of 21 November. An unidentified person said that the building of the Karelian pedagogical institute was mined. Lectures were urgently stopped but nothing was found.

Moscow Oblast Communists Celebrate 'Widened Influence'

MM2311111594 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Galina Orekhanova: "Communists Prepare for Congress"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The 30th report and election conference of the Moscow Oblast Russian Federation Communist Party [CPRF] organization was held in Moscow 21 November. Representative—244 delegates from 56 Moscow Oblast CPRF city and rayon organizations—and well organized, the Communists' conference examined five agenda items: a report on the work and tasks of the Moscow Oblast CPRF organization (the main speaker was S.G. Nigkoyev, chairman of the

Moscow Oblast CPRF Executive Committee Presidium), a report by the control and auditing commission, the election of a new Central Executive Committee of the Moscow Oblast CPRF organization and of a control and auditing commission, and also the election of delegates to the Third CPRF Congress, which will take place 21 January 1995. It was obvious from the credentials commission report that not only do the conference delegates represent a well-organized detachment of the party but that the CPRF's influence among the masses has widened significantly. Delegates representing industry, construction, municipal services, and science participated in the conference's work. The most portentous thing is that an influx of young forces into the party has begun.

The conference adopted clear-cut decisions: Party organizations are to be created at enterprises and in workers' collectives within three or four months, and every Communist will prepare a young person for admission to the party. It is recommended that political debate be pursued at theoretical seminars and not substituted for painstaking daily work in the party. The 30th report and election conference of the Moscow Oblast CPRF organization elected the new Moscow Oblast Executive Committee. S.G. Nigkoyev was reelected chairman of the Moscow Oblast CPRF Executive Committee Presidium, A.S. Sokolov first deputy, and V.M. Butsukin, N.I. Vasilyev, and G.K. Rebrov deputies. The conference elected 11 delegates to the Third CPRF Congress.

Krasnodar Mayor's Removal Based on 'Dubious' Pretext

MM2311155394 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 23 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Irina Kiryanova under the "Provincial Chronicle" rubric: "Yeltsin Deprives Krasnodar of a Leader"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Krasnodar—The November elections for the Krasnodar City Duma and the kray parliament had looked set to produce absolutely nothing of any note. The only hitch consisted in the abundance of candidates. However, we all know: If the action stops, bring on the "deus ex machina." On this occasion, the role of the god was played by the Russian president himself. On Friday, two days before the elections and, as they say in such cases, "for no apparent reason" he signed an edict removing one of the candidates from his post—Krasnodar mayor Valeriy Samoylenko, to be precise. Thus the president interfered, and most unceremoniously, what is more, in what was an exclusively local train of events. At the same time he left Krasnodar for several days without a proper government, insofar as the

local soviets were dissolved in an equally cavalier manner almost immediately after last year's Moscow drama.

Valeriy Samoylenko is an authoritative politician, and a fairly popular one in the North Caucasus. He is president of the Association of Cities of Southern Russia, in which, incidentally, he managed to get Yerevan and Sukhumi involved in the capacity of non-affiliated members. Again, he is vice president of the Union of Russian Cities. He became Krasnodar's "top dog" some time ago now. To a large extent, it is he who can take the credit for the fact that Krasnodar survived August 1991 so well, and celebrated its 200th anniversary peacefully last October, despite the shooting in Moscow. And for the fact that, amid all the cataclysms of recent years, there have been no major economic or social failures here, nor fatal interethnic clashes. And that is in spite of the highly complex ethnic makeup of the Kuban and the extremely suspicious attitude of the local population toward persons of non-Slav nationality....

But what he really deserves to be remembered for is the fact that, through his own determination and authority, he brought about the Kuban capital's unparalleled leap to a completely new level of culture. In the last two or three years the city has provided itself with a symphony orchestra, an organ hall, a classical ballet, an opera house, a conservatory faculty attached to the Academy of Culture....

The official pretext for the dismissal is extremely dubious. Apparently the mayor was failing to carry out the president's edicts and the government's decrees. Which ones exactly? In an interview for the city newspaper Valeriy Samoylenko recalled just one instance of disobedience: in a willful decision he banned the privatization of bakeries. Which was probably a sensible move.

Local analysts are inclined to take the view that the president's edict was a reflection of the rivalry between two influential groupings which have formed of late in the North Caucasus. One of them is based on the Association of Cities of Southern Russia and led by Samoylenko himself. The other is formed around a similar association of regions of the North Caucasus and gravitates toward Nikolay Yegorov, head of the Ministry of Nationalities Affairs and Regional Policy, and Vladimir Shumeyko.

We asked one Krasnodar wit, who was in a neighboring republic when this bolt came down from the blue, whether the president's edict surprised him. The edict does not surprise me, he replied, but the president does.

Incidentally, in last weekend's City Duma election 10 of the 27 candidates elected were "Zhirinovskiy men"....

Hunger Strikes in Yekaterinburg Over Salary Delays

*LD2411112394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0625
GMT 24 Nov 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The union leader, an engineer and a worker of the research and production association Avtomatika, the biggest manufacturer of missile complex control systems in Russia based in Yekaterinburg, the Urals region, have continued an endless hunger strike launched following delays in the payment of salaries.

The Avtomatika union leader, Vasiliy Pinyagin, told Interfax Wednesday [23 November] that the management

had failed to anyhow react to the strikers' demands to repay the salary debt amounting to seven billion rubles, dissolve the contract with Avtomatika Director General Vyacheslav Chebotarev and guarantee their jobs to personnel.

Avtomatika workers have not been paid their salaries since April.

Only 20 of the association's capacities are engaged in the production at the moment. About 8,000 people are employed at the association. Pinyagin did not rule out that other workers could join the hunger strike adding he will starve as long as his health will permit him.

International Affairs

Kuchma Looks To 'Widespread Cooperation'

LD2411094094 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 0800 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The meeting of the head of the independent state of Ukraine with U.S. President Bill Clinton and other highly placed officials has characterized a qualitatively new period in Ukrainian-U.S. relations, said President Leonid Kuchma in a speech on Wednesday at the Center for Strategic and International Research. We have moved away from the past when the dialogue between the two states was restricted mainly to the so-called nuclear problems, he noted. On the agenda for the next protracted period is the issue of widespread cooperation.

Even in my dreams I do not imagine the return of the USSR, added Leonid Kuchma. The processes that are taking place in Ukraine today are irreversible. Ukraine is open to the world and aspires to cooperate with all interested partners avoiding dependency on certain countries or groups of countries. Its strategy in choosing partners and allies has one aim, to guarantee the sovereignty and preserve independence and the territorial integrity of the state. I want to dispel your doubts as to Ukraine's choice of market reform, the Ukrainian president said addressing the representatives of the American intellectual elite. The first steps along this path have already been taken.

U.S., Kiev Sign Trade, Space Agreements

LD2311123394 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1115 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Washington—"Seventy seven years ago, on 22 November 1917, another generation of Ukrainian leaders declared Ukrainian independence. It was a tragedy that the civil war and the Bolsheviks doomed the new state to destruction" said U.S. President Bill Clinton during an official meeting ceremony with the Ukrainian president on the South Lawn near the White House. In his words, Ukraine could conquer independence and find its place in the new Europe, despite the attempts to prevent it from being in charge of its own will. He said that Leonid Kuchma was advancing to the future through economic reforms, having renounced nuclear weapons. "We are grateful to you as a person who initiated the Ukrainian renaissance," Bill Clinton said turning personally to Leonid Kuchma.

The U.S. President said that the U.S. would support Ukraine's independence, the inviolability of its borders and the reforms that are being conducted in it. "We welcome the country which will become one of the great states," Bill Clinton concluded.

In his speech Leonid Kuchma, for his part, noted that Ukraine as a young state is prepared to learn from others. The Ukrainian president stressed that the era of

global confrontation of two political systems has ended: "It was not the West that won but the way of life which enabled the development of the individual." "We will become a reliable partner for the U.S. in its efforts to transform the era into an era of democratic values," Leonid Kuchma noted.

After an official ceremony in the Oval Office the Ukrainian and U.S. presidents held a conversation.

The Ukrainian-U.S. talks ended with the signing of the Charter on Partnership, Friendship, and Cooperation and an agreement on deepening cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space and also a memorandum on cooperation between the U.S. Ministry of Trade and Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and an agreement on conversion.

At a news conference which was held after the signing of Ukrainian-U.S. documents, U.S. President Bill Clinton said that according to the Nunn-Lugar program, the United States will continue the stage-by-stage financial assistance to Ukraine in the sum of \$900 million (of which \$350 million will go toward dismantling nuclear weapons—\$6 million has been received—and \$550 million for economic reform).

In the words of Ukraine's President, Leonid Kuchma the signing of the charter will remove the last obstacles on the path of cooperation with the United States.

Shpek Details Plans for U.S. Economic Aid

LD2511100594 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1915 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] [no date as received]—"Out of the \$550 million economic aid package pledged to the Ukraine by the United States, we expect to receive 200 million in the very near future", Ukraine's Economic Minister Roman Shpek stated in an interview with UNIAN. Of that amount, he said, 72 million will go toward servicing current payments for energy carriers in the fourth quarter of this year, 25 million towards a long-term easy-payment credit to Ukraine's agriculture, and three million toward the purchase of medical supplies. The rest, which is 100 million, will be divided between investment projects, investment insurance, and power engineering reorganization. Assistance in the provision of these funds will be rendered by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

"The fourteen documents signed by the presidents of Ukraine and the United States and both countries' ministers on 22-23 November, turned on a green light to private American investment," Roman Shpek continued. He said the company Pepsico had confirmed its intention to invest \$100 million in the Ukrainian economy's processing industries and production of agricultural produce packaging, while General Electric had proposed a new scheme for the purchase of semi-finished and some finished products, to be sold outside Ukraine. Roman Shpek added agreement had been

reached in the United States to promote contacts between individual firms and Ukrainian regions.

Among the 14 documents signed are a joint statement by Ukraine's External Economic Relations Minister Serhiy Osyka and U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown; an agreement with USAID on the allocation to Ukraine of a grant to reform the economy, signed by Ukraine's Economy Minister Roman Shepek; a memorandum on the institution with the aid of the United States of a Ukrainian university of ecology, signed by Deputy Prime Minister Ivan Kuras; an agreement on granting in 1995 a \$25 million credit for the purchase of agricultural produce, signed by Yuriy Scherbak, Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, and Christopher Goldthwait, general sales manager of the United States Department of Agriculture; and a financial protocol on the provision of \$10 million to finance conversion projects, signed by Ukraine's Deputy Prime Minister Valeriy Shmarov and Overseas Private Investment Corporation President Ruth Harkin.

Apart from that, a number of the documents signed will take effect after confirmation by Foreign Affairs Ministry notes via diplomatic channels. They are an agreement on legal succession with regard to the customs agreement between the United States and the USSR, one on employment for diplomatic personnel family members, and a joint statement on future cooperation in the aerospace industry.

It was also agreed in the course of the visit that a conference would be held in Ukraine between 14-16 December, to be attended by representatives of U.S. financial and business circles.

Russian Paper Comments on Kuchma's U.S. Visit

MM2311140594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Nov 94 p 3

[Commentary by Vladimir Nadein: "America Offers Kuchma Friendship But No Checkbook"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Washington—A 30-gun salute, the playing of the national anthems, and a ceremonial march-past on the South Lawn of the White House marked the opening of the state visit to the United States by Leonid Kuchma, Ukraine's second president. The Ukrainian is only the fourth leader, after the emperor of Japan, the president of South Africa, and the president of Russia to whom official Washington has accorded such an honor during Bill Clinton's two years in office.

Hardly had the dense smoke above the guns dispersed than the two presidents disappeared with their closest advisers into a White House office to exchange opinions and, most important, look one another in the eye and work out where they stand.

The new Ukrainian president had spoken by phone with Bill Clinton several times and they had exchanged letters, but they had never met in person. Is Kuchma going

to become "friend Leonid" along the lines of Russia's "friend Boris" or Germany's "friend Helmut"?

Leonid Kuchma represents a country with a somber present and an alarming future but a country which is also moving increasingly rapidly to the fore in the list of U.S. priorities. Ukraine presents a picture of inflation in the past year at almost 1,000 percent, a 36-percent drop in production in the same period, corruption and crime rivaling Russia and Colombia, and a population that is rapidly sinking into poverty—and all this is not even the price of reforms. There are no reforms. The problem is compounded by ossified economic forms and the active reluctance (at least until very recently) of the power structures in Ukraine to take the necessary steps toward the free market.

However, Ukraine's strategic position and its prominent position in the system of former Soviet republics lead the Americans to the conclusion that the collapse of independent Ukraine would have a Chernobyl effect on European stability.

As the president election in Russia draws closer, prompting thoughts about the future of the fragile partnership between the former superpowers, U.S. policy makers are increasingly turning their gaze toward Ukraine. Of course, there is no question of playing the "Ukraine card" against Russia.

After Leonid Kuchma's election as Ukrainian president, even those who advocated playing the Ukraine card fell silent and waited for better times. And that despite the fact that the administration's critics were extremely forthright until recently, demanding almost that Ukraine be admitted into Nato.

Despite the differences of opinion with the White House on a number of foreign policy problems, the new Republican majority in Congress is hardly going to oppose support for Ukraine. However, the new congressional leaders have promised to look more closely at whether U.S. taxpayers' money is being used to help crooks in the government get rich or to help structural transformations.

The recent measures unveiled by Leonid Kuchma have been given a rapturous reception in Washington.

As Nicholas Burns, the U.S. President's special assistant for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia, stated recently, Leonid Kuchma has undergone "a remarkable change—in the twinkling of an eye. Our government was afraid that Ukrainian statehood was in serious danger because of the lack of economic reforms."

The ratification of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty by the Supreme Rada [Council] removed some major obstacles to economic aid for Ukraine. The way has been opened for the United States, Canada, and the IMF to keep their promises and issue \$725 million in the final quarter of this year for the stabilization of the Ukrainian economy. A further \$350 million will be allocated by the

United States as part of a technical aid package. All of this will make Ukraine the fourth-largest recipient of U.S. aid after Israel, Egypt, and Russia.

U.S. diplomacy also takes the credit for settling, albeit temporarily, Ukraine's debts to Russia and Turkmenistan. For Ukraine this problem is vital. It is not the United States or Canada, much less the countries of the European Union, which are adroitly avoiding giving aid to the former "second among equals among free republics," but Russia and Turkmenistan that are today the main donors to the Ukrainian economy. They are owed more than \$3 billion.

After a two-day break in Hawaii to recover from a grueling nationwide tour on the eve of the elections and get over the disappointment of a crushing defeat, President Clinton will be very sensitive and responsive in his conversations with the new Ukrainian leader. However, Ukraine is not going to get any special U.S. commitment to support its independence and territorial inviolability going beyond the scope of conventional guarantees to countries party to the Nonproliferation Treaty. The size of the aid package is not likely to be increased either.

Leonid Kuchma is not even slightly prey to the fond hopes which his predecessor, Leonid Kravchuk, cherished during his first visits to Washington. The United States, for all its financial clout, has ceased to be a large, open checkbook for the Ukrainian president. Despite Kiev's desperate need for foreign investments, reliable trade and economic partnership with Russia is the key to ending the crisis in Ukraine.

L. Kuchma knows that, so does B. Clinton. They also know that B. Yeltsin knows it.

Foreign Minister Discusses Moscow-Kiev Relations

MK2311132094 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI
in Russian No. 58, 20-27 Nov 94 p 12

[Interview with Ukraine Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko by Dmitriy Yakushkin under the "Diplomacy" rubric: "There Is Too Much That Ties Us to Russia"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In the wake of the Ukrainian parliament's passing the decision on the accession to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, one of the problems of the republic's relations with Russia and with the rest of the world has been struck from the agenda. MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI political observer Dmitriy Yakushkin discusses other foreign policy aspects with Ukraine Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko.

[Yakushkin] Sir, the impression is that the Russian-Ukrainian talks are skidding. The dates of Boris Yeltsin's visit to Kiev are constantly being moved back.

[Udovenko] It is journalists who, to a certain extent, forced us to name these dates. We discussed the subject

with Andrey Kozyrev back in early September and came to the conclusion that we should not commit ourselves to any certain date.

There is now generally a proposal first to resolve the navy and debt problems, and only after this sign the treaty. There is also the opposite approach: Let us sign the treaty first and then proceed to solve specific problems, concerning the navy again, on its basis.

[Yakushkin] To which line do you adhere?

[Udovenko] I believe there should first be a treaty because otherwise we may be dragging our feet on it. On the other hand, our talks on the remaining problems are not going too badly. When there are no talks, everyone is looking over their own shoulders, and that is too bad.

At the same time, I would like the Russian mentality changed....

[Yakushkin] In what respect?

[Udovenko] One should get used to the fact that Ukraine is an independent state. [passage omitted]

[Yakushkin] What was your concept of Ukrainian foreign policy when you took the ministerial post?

[Udovenko] We are not altering the foreign policy course; it is the same as it was when formed by the preceding Supreme Council when it was approving its foundations. But I consider it necessary to add fresh emphases in foreign policy. This platform of mine was approved by parliament, which rather unanimously confirmed my candidacy.

[Yakushkin] What do you have in mind by "fresh emphases?"

[Udovenko] There is a need for normalizing relations with Russia, and very much has already been done in this area.

[Yakushkin] Do you think these relations were "not normal" until recently?

[Udovenko] They were steeped in ideology; many things were perceived in our country as an attempt at dictate. If up to now, three years after Ukraine and Russia became independent states, there is no treaty between them, this is hardly "normal." The previous treaty—while it was not too bad—was signed when there was still the Soviet Union. Still unsettled is the Black Sea Fleet issue. Separatist sentiments in Crimea are very strong, and we are only asking for whatever guarantees of territorial integrity to us. Thank God, President Yeltsin is talking about this. [passage omitted]

The priority of our relations with Russia and the CIS countries, however, should not be at the expense of cooperation with the West. [passages omitted]

[Yakushkin] Do you feel pressure in appointing new ambassadors of a independent Ukraine? Is this hard?

[Udovenko] Selecting ambassadors is a constant headache. We do not have the personnel basis that Russia has. Therefore, we have had very many appointments for political motives. They will be occurring also today; we cannot get away from this, we do not work in a vacuum. Unfortunately, we will not be able to fill all the vacancies with career diplomats. We have decided on Ukraine's ambassador to the United States (he is Yuriy Shcherbak, an epidemiologist, author, who was ambassador to Israel—note by D. Ya.). Now Russia is on the agenda [passage omitted] [interview ends]

P.S. The United States and Great Britain clearly welcome, via their ambassadors to Kiev, Ukraine's accession to the Nonproliferation Treaty. Russian disarmament experts have been more cautious. They believe in particular that it has not been made clear in which capacity Ukraine appears in the given case—as a nuclear or a nuclear-free state. The preamble to the law on Ukraine's accession to the Nonproliferation Treaty contains references to previous understandings on this score. On the other hand, parliament has stated that the nuclear arms are Ukraine's property. The accession law also enters into force after Ukraine receives security guarantees, although a reverse procedure was originally called for.

Moroz on Ukraine-Russia 'Problems'

LD2411210594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1923
GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There are no political problems between Ukraine and Russia, Chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Soviet Aleksandr Moroz declared on Thursday in Kiev addressing chairmen of local Councils in the State Management Institute under the Cabinet of Ministers.

In his words, Russia "has no territorial claims to Ukraine" and is ready to guarantee territorial integrity and inviolability of Ukraine's borders. "The Crimean problem" does not influence relations between two countries, Moroz noted.

In an interview with Interfax-Ukraine he underlined that Ukraine's parliament "would pursue a successive policy bringing Crimea's Constitution in line with Ukraine's Constitution."

Moroz reported about his telephone talk with the speaker of the Crimean parliament Sergey Tsekov who, as he said, "instills hope for a positive solution of this issue."

Crimeans Note 'No Logic' to Kiev Law Decision

MM2311143594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Nikolay Semena: "Crimea Depressed by News from Kiev"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Simferopol—The Crimean Supreme Soviet Presidium has examined the results of two hearings: in the Ukrainian parliament "On the Political-Legal Situation in the Crimea" and in the Russian Federation State Duma "On Russian-Ukrainian Relations."

Supreme Soviet Deputy Chairman V. Mezhak, who spoke at both the hearings and the State Duma session, described the results of the Crimean deputies' trip to Moscow. He stressed that during the meetings Ukraine's and Russia's approaches to the conclusion of a wide-ranging treaty on the Crimea's participation in this process were analyzed. He said that an accord was reached on the creation of an off-site Russian Federation consulate in the Crimea, on a mechanism for the people of the Crimea to take up Russian Federation citizenship, and on the creation of permanent State Duma and Crimean parliamentary missions to the Crimean Supreme Soviet and the State Duma respectively. Progress was also made when it came to resolving the issue of the Crimean ruble zone. Presidium members approved the speech delivered at the State Duma hearings by Admiral E. Baltin, commander of the Black Sea Fleet.

However the Ukrainian Supreme Council decision to abrogate around 10 Crimean laws and Supreme Soviet decrees, as Presidium Member M. Bakharev said, left the impression of being hasty and drastic. Perplexity was voiced at the fact that before the session Ukrainian deputies were talking about the discrepancies between the Crimean and Ukrainian Constitutions, but at the last minute the Crimean Constitution was left untouched while Crimean rulings that had already become invalid and were no longer in force were revoked wholesale. For instance, the Declaration of State Sovereignty, as it pointed out, was only in force until the adoption of a Crimean Constitution. No act of independence was adopted in the Crimea, but there was an Act on State Autonomy, which also ceased to be valid with the adoption of the Constitution.

Nor is it clear why Kiev revoked en masse even those Crimean laws that do not contravene the law on the demarcation of powers between Ukrainian and Crimean state organs adopted by mutual consent of the two supreme councils. What is the point in abrogating the law on the 1994 budget when just over a month remains until the end of its term, given, moreover, that the mutual treaty on interbudgetary relations is in force?

Presidium Member S. Nikulin pointed to another incongruity—the laws were abrogated not as laws, as should have been the case in accordance with generally accepted practice, but...as a list [perechen], a new word in law-making activity. Presidium members noted that the decision adopted in Kiev has no logic and in terms of form and essence is purely political rather than legal.

Russian Duma Deputies Urge Compromise*LD2311200194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1919
GMT 23 Nov 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 23 TASS—Deputies of the State Duma expressed concern over the way relations between Ukrainian and Crimean Parliaments were developing on Wednesday.

The lower house of the Russian Parliament issued a statement in connection with the Ukrainian Parliament's decree "on fulfillment of the Ukrainian Parliament's decree "on political and legal situation in the autonomous Republic of Crimea."

"We call upon (our counterparts), all citizens of Ukraine to behave toward the hopes and problems of the Republic of Crimea with the same amount of tolerance and respect as Russia did toward establishment of the independent Ukrainian state," the statement reads.

Deputies of the State Duma believe that "the language of ultimatums and blockade is the worst way to settle the discords." The fraternal peoples of Russia and Ukraine have an interest in common which consists in protecting the Crimea from any military pressure, because the peninsula is overcramped with weapons. The State Duma is not indifferent to the destiny of the Crimea due to the fact that any acceleration of tensions on the Crimea echoes in Russia.

"There are no issues in Ukrainian-Russian relations which could not be solved by means of bilateral talks," the statement reads.

Unless a compromise agreement is reached in the Ukrainian-Crimean conflict, it will be impossible to reach an agreement on the future of the Black Sea navy, about its anchorages and quarters, and, consequently, the signing and ratification of Russian-Ukrainian treaty of friendship, cooperation and partnership, the statement reads.

Kiev Protests Russian State Duma Stance*LD2411203894 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1915 GMT
24 Nov 94*

[By UNIAN correspondents Svitlana Dorosh, Volodymyr Ivakhnenko]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Moscow [no dateline as received]—Ukraine's embassy to Russia today sent a note of protest to the Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry in connection with a State Duma statement on the Ukrainian Supreme Council's resolution of 17 November "On the political and legal situation with the Crimean Autonomous Republic," the note proposing that clarification should be provided in relation to the statement, Vadym Dolhanov, counsellor at Ukraine's embassy to Russia, has told a UNIAN correspondent. He said this move by

Russia's legislature should from the standpoint of international law be qualified as "legal nonsense."

The statement, issued by Russia's State Duma on 23 November, says, in particular, that Russia expresses its concern at the development of mutual relations between Ukraine and Crimea and calls on Ukrainian parliamentary deputies to treat "the problems and hopes of the Crimean Republic with the same tolerance as that in Russia's treatment of the establishment of the independent Ukraine." It is said in the statement that "an accord on the future, mooring, and basing of the Black Sea Fleet and, therefore, the ratification of a Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Partnership between Ukraine and the Russian Federation are impossible without a compromise in the settlement of the Crimean-Ukrainian conflict." There were 227 votes in favor, four against, and three abstentions.

"Ukraine by no means links the ratification of a Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Partnership to the removal of misunderstanding between Kiev and Simferopol," said Yevhen Marchuk, Ukraine's first deputy prime minister, commenting in an interview with UNIAN today on the State Duma statement. [passage omitted]

Moroz Calls For Expedient BSF Vessel Transfer*LD2411175794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1617
GMT 24 Nov 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ukrainian Parliamentary Speaker Oleksandr Moroz believes it expedient to transfer all Black Sea Fleet [BSF] vessels to Russia provided Ukraine keeps all coastal infrastructure.

In answer to an Interfax-Ukraine question Thursday, Moroz said he did not rule out that the Russian fleet could base on the Ukrainian territory and that the Ukrainian Navy could base in or near Sevastopol.

At the same time, Moroz believes it necessary to "immediately solve the Black Sea Fleet issue." "The Black Sea is an area of specific interests of both Russia and Ukraine, and we need to coordinate our activities," he said.

Anti-Ukrainian Feelings Increase in BSF*LD2411133294 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in
Ukrainian 0800 GMT 24 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Aggressive behavior toward citizens of our state is increasing among sailors of the Black Sea Fleet. This is stressed in an appeal by the Sevastopol city organization of the DSU [State Independence of Ukraine] to the Ukrainian parliament. It points out that there has recently been a sharp increase in clashes provoked by the sailors of the Black Sea Fleet in which Ukrainian servicemen have been brutally beaten up. One of them died from the injuries which he sustained. The

basic reason for this situation, according to the Sevastopol branch of the DSU, is the anti-Ukrainian tensions that are flaring up in certain sections of the Black Sea Fleet.

National Affairs

Kuchma Issues Reform, Anti-Monopoly Edict

AU2311143894 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian
22 Nov 94 p 5

["Ukrainian Presidential Edict on Measures To Ensure the Fulfillment of Decisions on Reforming Ukraine's Economy" signed by President L. Kuchma on 18 November]

[FBIS Translated Text] Proceeding from the fact that individual bodies of state executive power are blocking Ukraine Cabinet of Ministers' measures to reform the economy and are setting high monopoly prices where these prices should be formed independently by agreement between producers and consumers, and proceeding from the fact that this is making the population oppose the implementation of radical economic reforms, I resolve as follows:

1. To hold the leaders of ministries, other central bodies of state executive power, the government of the Crimean Autonomous Republic, and chairmen of oblast, Kiev, and Sevastopol city councils of people's deputies personally answerable for failure to fulfill the Ukraine Cabinet of Ministers decisions on implementing economic reforms and for allowing departmental influence on the setting of high monopoly prices and rates.

To determine that those officials who are responsible for opposition to the Ukraine Cabinet of Ministers's decisions regarding reforms in the economy and for setting high monopoly prices and rates must be punished in accordance with the law to the extent that they might be dismissed from their posts.

2. Ukraine's Antimonopoly Committee, jointly with Ukraine's Ministry of Economy, must submit within one month proposals on measures to restrict branch monopolism, in particular, to abolish those structures that, through administrative influence, cause price increases proceeding from their departmental interests and in defiance of the citizens' interests.

3. Ukraine's Ministry of Economy, jointly with corresponding ministries and other central bodies of state power, with the participation of local bodies of power and self-government, must submit by 1 January 1995 proposals to ensure prices are set for the main products manufactured in Ukraine in taking into account market demand, through organizing fairs and exchange trade and creating other structures that will function on new principles.

4. Ukraine's National Bank must submit by 1 January 1995 proposals for the sale of products on Ukraine's domestic market with payment exclusively in the national currency.

[signed] Ukrainian President L. Kuchma

[dated] Kiev, 18 Nov 1994

Parliament Expects 'Battle' Over Power Bill

WS2411092494 Kiev INTELNEWS in English 0238
GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, Nov. 23.—President Leonid Kuchma's return home from the United States is likely to be followed shortly by a sharp battle with Parliament over his proposals for the division of government power.

According to sources close to presidential advisor Volodymyr Hryniov, Kuchma is likely as early as Monday or Tuesday to submit to Parliament a bill greatly increasing his own power at the expense of the legislative branch.

Ukraine's government currently consists of a confusing political patchwork in which presidential and governmental decrees and parliamentary laws often contradict each other or are ignored by local authorities.

"The draft foresees the transformation of Ukrainian Parliament from an organ that has unlimited powers, as it is today, into a European-style parliament, which would function only as a legislative body," said Hryniov.

According to the bill, the president will head the entire executive branch, including the Cabinet of Ministers, and will be solely responsible for appointing government staff. The government appointed by the president is to be approved by Parliament.

If Parliament rejects presidential proposals twice, the president can order it dissolved, according to the bill, which would also give Parliament the right to impeach the president, but only under strictly specified conditions.

The draft law also foresees that a prime minister will play a different role, concentrating on organizing and conducting the sessions of the Cabinet of Ministers, as well as working on the directives and resolutions of his immediate superior—the president.

"I believe the Kiev party branch will play a key role during the first political test of our party—the struggle for approval of the presidential bill division of powers, a cornerstone of Kuchma's reforms," said Hryniov, speaking to a Tuesday meeting of the Kiev branch of the Inter-Regional Reform Bloc attended by over 200 delegates.

Regarding the anticipated parliamentary reaction to the law, Hryniov said "Parliament is not likely to give up on its own most of its powers and concede to narrowing its functions." But the president is determined to push this

law, and if Parliament rejects it, Kuchma may call for a referendum on the issue, Hryniov said, echoing an earlier statement by the president.

Moroz Addresses Group on Economic Reform

LD2511132294 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 2300 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] We need economic reform only on the basis of law, Supreme Council Chairman Oleksandr Moroz said, addressing students on the key personnel refresher course at the state Management and Self-Government Institute under Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers today.

The consensus of both Ukrainian and foreign experts about the main basis and trends of economic reform in crisis, approved by the Supreme Council, is that it is a fundamental document that took the course toward economic reform and made provision for a regulated state market which, strictly speaking, is what there is worldwide. As for the course outlined by the Supreme Council, Oleksandr Moroz believes it shares with the presidential program approximately 80 percent of the ideas contained in it. The Supreme Council is willing to act jointly with the president. Thus, there was not and there will not be any need to oppose their positions to each other.

The Supreme Council chairman also warned against radical moves. His view is that objective preconditions make this impossible.

Moroz on Opposition To Some Land Reform Decrees

LD2311181094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1559 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament Aleksandr Moroz said he was in favor of the parliamentary-presidential form of rule with a "strong executive vertical."

He said during his visit to the Ternopol Region of Ukraine today that he believed that the president must carry out only representative functions.

Moroz told employees of the Niva agricultural enterprise that he considered some provisions of the Ukrainian president's decree on speeding up the land reform as "not so well conceived and out of time."

Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma is now on a visit to the U.S.

Moroz said he believed that he would propose that the parliament veto the provisions of the decree which, in his opinion, "lead to stealing land."

Moroz said it would be a crime to begin selling land "now when there is no national currency unit and there is no money for paying for services and goods."

At the same time, Moroz said he was in favor of implementing the land reform but within the scope of the documents which had already been approved. He stressed that the Ukrainian Land Code provided for granting the right to own land both to individual farmers and collective farms.

Moroz also said he was in favor of continuing to subsidize production of main agricultural products. He said he believed that the federal budget must assign funds for such subsidies as a compensation for the "nonequivalent exchange between towns and villages."

Kuchma Appoints Fuel, Energy Adviser

LD2311165794 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] By an edict of the president of Ukraine, Yuli Yoffe has been appointed supernumerary adviser to the president of Ukraine for issues of the fuel and energy complex.

Kuchma Appoints Security Service Official

AU2311145394 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 22 Nov 94 p 4

["Ukrainian Presidential Edict on Appointing A. Byelyayev as Deputy Chairman of Ukraine's Security Service" signed by Ukrainian President L. Kuchma on 18 Nov]

[FBIS Translated Text] To appoint Anatoliy Mykhaylovych Byelyayev as deputy chairman of Ukraine's Security Service, member of the Board of Ukraine's Security Service, and head of Ukraine's Security Service Main Administration for Combating Corruption and Organized Crime.

[signed] Ukrainian President L. Kuchma

[dated] Kiev, 18 November 1994

General Fedin Undertakes BSF Appointment

LD2411015394 Kiev UNIAK in Ukrainian 2245 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Sevastopol, 23 Nov—Aviation Major General Ivan Fedin has been appointed as Black Sea Fleet Air Force commander.

Cabinet Appoints Union Negotiation Team

WS2311125194 Kiev INTELNEWS in English 2355 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, Nov. 22.—In a major step forward toward ensuring labor peace, the Cabinet of Ministers on Tuesday appointed a government working commission to negotiate the terms of a 1995 General Tariff Agreement to be signed between the government and trade unions.

Labor Minister Mykhaylo Kaskevych was appointed as the commission chair and First Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Pynzenyk will coordinate the negotiations.

Kaskevych said Monday the cabinet has also drafted amendments to the Employment Law, clarifying the status of the partially unemployed and the conditions of their social protection.

Kaskevych, who announced the news after a round of negotiations with Federation of Ukrainian Trade Unions leader Oleksandr Stoyan, said the Cabinet and union leaders have agreed to raise the monthly minimum wage and tie it in the future to the consumer price index.

The two sides also ironed out a framework for addressing union demands for tax cuts, and the lifting of Value Added Tax on bread, milk, meat, and vegetables.

The corresponding ministries and other government institutions in charge of the management of public property and local administrations were instructed within a week to appoint their duly authorized representatives to take part in such negotiations.

Official also said that by Dec. 1 the cabinet will elaborate a mechanism that will make it possible to prevent delayed payments of wages in the future.

Belarus

Gas Supply Resumes Under 'Strict Conditions'

WS2411094394 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in
Belarusian 0800 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] One cannot rule out that in the immediate future Belarus will have to pay world prices for energy sources, declared Deputy Prime Minister Valery Kokaraw at a news conference devoted to the results of a government delegation's recent visit to Moscow. According to him, this assumption was prompted by the chronic debt of Belarusian enterprises for Russian oil and gas.

The current aggregate debt of Belarusian consumers to Russian energy suppliers amounts to some \$460 million. In the opinion of the deputy prime minister, the first warning from Russia's Gazprom to the Belarusian side—a 50 percent reduction in gas supplies to the Republic as of 16 November—was a logical outcome.

According to Kokaraw, in the course of emergency negotiations in Moscow, an agreement was reached on resuming the former volume of gas supplies to Belarusian pipelines in exchange for a commitment, personally guaranteed by the government, to provide for a 100-percent repayment of the current debt.

Another strict condition expressed by the Russian side was the demand to present a precise schedule for the Belarusian Government to repay its two-year energy debt.

Government Imposes Limits on Electricity

WS2411092094 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in
Belarusian 0400 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Due to considerable reductions in deliveries of natural gas to the Republic, an extremely complex situation with supplying power plants and boiler houses with fuel oil has developed. The Cabinet of Ministers has resolved to reduce the consumption of electricity to a total of 24.7 kilowatt hours per day in all oblasts and the city of Minsk, in accordance with a previously accepted timetable. At the same time, the Belpaliwhaz company has been requested to take necessary measures to provide power plants and boiler houses with as much natural gas as possible.

U.S. Studies Petrochemical Plant Project

WS2311143394 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in
Belarusian 1300 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] U.S. Ambassador to Belarus Kenneth Spencer Yalowitz and Lew Navazhilaw, general manager of Polimir Production Association—a leading enterprise in the petrochemical sector of Belarus—have signed an agreement granting a subsidy to Belarus. According to this contract, the U.S. Agency for Commerce and Development will allocate up to \$500,000 to

study the feasibility—as well as the environmental safety—of an ethylene-producing factory in Novopolotsk. [Words indistinct] civil-engineering company from the United States will undertake this project.

IMF Reconsiders Assistance

LD2311200994 Minsk Radiostantsiya Belarus
International Service in Belarusian 1900 GMT
23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Belarusian Government has received an official notice from the IMF that on 15 December it is not going to consider the issue of financial assistance to Belarus, as was planned before. The fund has been closely following the economic policy implemented in our country, the main criteria being consistency of the Belarusian Government in carrying out the anticrisis program. And while until recently there were not any special deviations from the program of urgent measures, approved by the Supreme Soviet and the IMF, the well-known decree of the president on reduction of prices, in the opinion of experts, has crossed out everything positive that was developed before. Without IMF credits, Belarus will find it extremely difficult to get out of the abyss of the economic crisis.

In the opinion of observers, renewing relations with the IMF will be possible in the event of resignation of the government, which has allowed such an economically ungrounded decision. However, the problem is that the initiative of such an action did not come from the government.

Lukashenka on 'Crisis of Power,' IMF Credit Denial

LD2311182494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1616
GMT 23 Nov 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature; compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy, and edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] "Belarus is sovereign for the East and for the West, and the West has no right to tell the Belarusian President what decisions he is to make", President Alyaksandr Lukashenka told a conference of trade union activists on Wednesday [23 November].

President Lukashenka made it clear that in the first place he was referring to the International Monetary Fund, which had denied Belarus another credit of \$308 million.

IF [Interfax] Note. Earlier reports said that the International Monetary Fund denied the credit in response to President Lukashenka's decree to reduce prices. The IMF argues that Belarus is unable to end the state control of prices. "The West put its foot down," Lukashenka said about the IMF verdict. President Lukashenka described himself as a supporter of government control of economic reform combined with market mechanisms.

"The current economic crisis has coincided with the crisis of power," which, in the opinion of the Belarusian leader is being "provoked by the former nomenklatura, unable to reconcile itself with Alyaksandr Lukashenka's election." The opposition is led by those politicians, who lost the election race and now they seek to impeach the President", Lukashenka said.

In spite of the Constitutional Court's decision declaring as unconstitutional the juridically supported initiatives of the President to abolish 91 percent of the Soviets of People's Deputies Lukashenka said that he remained committed to their replacement with self-government committees. The President believes that the presidential chain of command would take no more than two weeks to establish.

He said that in order to furnish a social safety net for the population he prohibited the managers of industrial enterprises from dismissing workers in connection with stoppages. "Those directors who disobey the President would be dismissed themselves", President Lukashenka warned.

About relations with Russia Lukashenka said that they were equitable relations of partnership between two independent states. President Lukashenka said that "Russia, bled white by its own economic problems, was unable to follow the principle of proletarian internationalism to supply other CIS republics with inexpensive fuels and raw materials." This is the reason why at the inter-governmental talks on oil supplies to Belarus next year Russia put forward tough conditions. The debts for the raw materials supplied over the previous eighteen months have to be paid off first, Lukashenka said. He added that the Belarusian Cabinet was going its best to have the payments deferred, but so far failed achieve that.

President Lukashenka said that under a firm agreement with Russia the two countries would soon begin to found powerful financial and industrial groups and Russian-Belarusian friendship societies.

Minister Views Foreign Economic Activities

WS2311140094 Minsk RESPUBLIKA in Russian
17 Nov 94 p 2

[Interview with Mikhail Afanasyevich Marynich, minister of foreign economic relations of Belarus, by Mikhail Shymanskiy; place and date not given: "Belarus Should Penetrate Into Foreign Markets"—first paragraph is RESPUBLIKA introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] Whatever we say, the words "minister of foreign economic relations of Belarus" sound proud and meaningful. We could not even dream about such a post before, because Moscow resolved all our issues. Thank God, times have changed.

[Shymanskiy] Well, Mikhail Afanasyevich Marynich is the minister of foreign economic relations of Belarus. We

are presenting him to our readers. It seems to me that you see him as a laconic, severe, and even unemotional official. He has been nominated to such a high post, which only an expert in various areas, including diplomacy and behavioral norms, could occupy. Yes, we are living at a time when poems and emotions are out of place. But Mikhail Afanasyevich—recalling something very dear to him—says:

[Marynich] I often visit foreign states due to the nature of my work. I have to be present at various official meetings, negotiations, receptions, and other official ceremonies. Yes, they are living in a civilized and luxurious world. But I am dreaming about my native village Staryye Golovchitsy in Petrikov Rayon in Polesye, where I was born. Our country's beauty is very serene, we have no Western luxury. We are surrounded by birch trees, blue fir groves, and fragrant summer flowers. Our people are kind, cordial, and industrious, they are not spoiled by life. How can I forget about all this when I am abroad? A poet said: "Wherever you go, you should never forget about your native land."

[Shymanskiy] Mikhail Afanasyevich, you were in Prague not long ago. You are currently working as minister of foreign economic relations.

[Marynich] Yes, I have worked as Belarus' ambassador to the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary. I had almost settled down in Prague and plunged into my new activities, when—all of a sudden—it was proposed that I occupy this post. I admit that it was very difficult for me to make this decision, and I did not accept this proposal at first. But President Alyaksandr Lukashenka and his team persuaded me that I—with my knowledge and expertise in foreign trade—should head this ministry.

[Shymanskiy] Our Republic is currently trying to penetrate into foreign markets. What are the reasons for such a situation?

[Marynich] First of all, our economy is very specific. It has an open nature, more than half of our goods are produced for export. Therefore, we should, no, we simply must have reliable and stable partners abroad. The second reason is the geopolitical location of Belarus. We are, in fact, situated in the center of Europe, on the crossing point of the most important trade routes. It would have been illogical to fail to take advantage of this situation.

[Shymanskiy] Foreign trade is an entirely new sector of Belarus' economic activity. How does our Republic cope with new tasks?

[Marynich] Having acquired its independence and having begun to build its own statehood, Belarus faced many new problems. One of these problems stems from the necessity to handle our national foreign trade more efficiently, and to trade with the states of both the far and near abroad. We need appropriate laws. Figuratively speaking, we must feel at ease in foreign trade business as

soon as possible. It is clear. Moscow alone handled foreign trade in the former USSR. Well, there is nothing to conceal: Belarus' task was to produce goods, while Moscow handled foreign trade. All the goods—produced by Belarus—were exported through the foreign trade network of the former USSR. Moscow had numerous state organs—including the Foreign Trade Ministry—and a sprawling network of trade missions and foreign trade offices located in more than 90 countries of the world. In addition, there were over 60 foreign trade associations and organizations in the former USSR. Three large research institutes, a variety of special centers and colleges drafted general concepts and strategies for managing foreign economic activity.

It is natural that Belarusian economic entities could not enter foreign markets. Therefore, we lack qualified personnel. The State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations (a current ministry) was established less than four years ago.

[Shymanskiy] What about the current situation in our foreign trade sector?

[Marynich] We have stable economic relations with virtually all countries of Europe, as well as with the United States and Japan. Not to mention the new CIS states. In a word, our Republic is present on the markets of all continents. Bilateral intergovernmental agreements—covering trade and economic cooperation—as well as agreements on the mutual protection of investments have been signed with the majority of these states. So, a legal and normative basis for economic cooperation has been established.

[Shymanskiy] Is the change of the committee into a ministry a mere change of signboards? Or was this change of a more profound and fundamental nature?

[Marynich] First, this change implies a higher level of responsibility for regulating and developing foreign economic relations. To increase the efficiency of the coordinated foreign economic policy of Belarus, the ministry provides necessary conditions for its development and implementation. We are also coordinating and regulating the foreign economic activity of ministries, departments, economic entities, and other organizations of the Republic.

The most important issue for us is to achieve the dynamic development of our foreign trade more quickly. This task will be fulfilled when every economic entity of Belarus feels at home on both foreign and domestic markets. Has Belarus established an appropriate basis for this process? I assume, that we have such a basis. I am going to develop my viewpoint on this issue.

All Belarusian enterprises have received an opportunity to independently enter foreign markets. Belarus has chosen the correct course by liberalizing its foreign trade. We have moved from licensing all our goods to licensing only a few hundreds. Some 40,000 economic entities are

independently operating on foreign markets. About 1,360 joint ventures have been organized. In addition, 443 enterprises based on 100-percent foreign capital have been registered. Their charter funds total some \$1.265 billion. Foreign investments account for almost half of this sum. Two hundred fifty four representatives of foreign companies have been accredited in Belarus. Advisers on trade and economic issues, as well as our embassies' employees handling financial issues, are working in 12 foreign countries.

[Shymanskiy] To make it short, Belarus is currently trading on the markets of all continents. Do foreign countries recognize Belarus as a reliable and stable partner?

[Marynich] I have to admit that much should be done to force foreign states to recognize us, to make Belarusian goods competitive on foreign markets. This is an extremely difficult task. World markets were divided long ago, and it is very difficult to enter these markets with our goods because they lose quality and other parameters as compared with foreign goods. We should pursue a flexible policy. Belarus should operate on the "fields" of foreign markets, should constantly improve its performance to make our foreign trade maximally efficient. We should run experiments and specify our priority tasks.

[Shymanskiy] Have you already specified our priority tasks?

[Marynich] Of course, this is our ministry's task.

The retention of our markets in the CIS states—mainly in Russia, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan—is our primary concern. By the way, we are already challenged by Germany, Austria, France, and other states on these markets.

Every entity—from ordinary producers to enterprise managers and politicians—should realize this problem. The most important task is not to produce goods but to sell them on a permanent basis to maintain our position in our traditional markets. We should always remember that we have not been granted these markets once and for all; there are tough challengers. Our fight for markets and for our presence on them is based on the quality of our goods, as well as on proper servicing, and, of course, on sane prices.

Belarus—with more than half of the goods produced for export—should not differentiate between the near and far abroad. This task is currently of particular importance because raw materials are purchased at world prices. Our state is beginning to implement economic levers to regulate our foreign trade. Administrative methods—licensing, quoting, and so on—will be curtailed. This approach is supported by Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, so it is a state policy.

Economic relations with East European states—former members of the former Council for Mutual Economic

Assistance—are our second priority task. I realized this when I worked as an ambassador to the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary. Our common trouble is a lack of hard currency. Therefore, we should look for new approaches together, and should not be afraid to begin trading on a barter basis. This implies an exchange of goods, the establishment of joint ventures, and other activities. I am sure that the future of our Republic—as well as of other CIS states—is connected with this region.

[Shymanskiy] Will the East European states trade with us? What goods can they buy in Belarus? How will they satisfy their needs?

[Marynich] This is a logical question. Let us recall that both the East European states and we were eager to have specialized enterprises in Western markets not long ago. This euphoria is over and we are feeling that governments and business circles are showing an ever-increasing interest in trading with Belarus. Their interest in the revival of trade and economic relations with Belarus has increased. I can provide you with sufficient examples of such cooperation. The size of our interview, however, does not allow for citing all of them.

[Shymanskiy] Our enterprises should also be more active and resourceful. As the saying says, no pain, no gain....

[Marynich] You are absolutely correct. Both our enterprises and organizations should come up with more initiatives. They should be more courageous in introducing goods into the markets of East European states, especially since they have free production capacities. As for the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland, they also have a high level of technological production.

We should not forget that a number of businessmen from East European states speak Russian; they have expertise in cooperating with us; they are familiar with our situation and with the requirements of our market. They are showing interest in cooperating with Belarusian enterprises. The proximity of our states—resulting in minimal expenditures on transportation—is also an argument for widening export and import of goods, labor, and services among our states. To make it short, we should operate actively. This will prompt an active response.

The states of the Mediterranean Region, the Near East, North Africa, and Southeast Asia are our third priority task. Regrettably, we are strangers to these states. Analysis of these regions shows that we could sell our goods there and make considerable profits.

[Shymanskiy] Mikhail Afanasyevich, how do we find access to overseas markets. I am primarily referring to the United States.

[Marynich] The United States is an international financial center, therefore it is very important for little Belarus to develop our trade and economic relations with this state. Both our states are enjoying the most-favored-nation trading status and we have worked hard to achieve such results. This situation, however, could

accelerate the adoption of similar decisions by other members of the international community. According to statistics, the U.S. markets are open to Belarusian goods, and our bilateral trade is developing dynamically. The United States holds third place in trading with Belarus after Germany and Poland, on the markets of which we are selling the largest amount of our goods. We have exported goods for a total of some \$20 million to Germany and Poland in the first half of 1994 (this amount accounts for half of our exports in 1993).

I would like to speak about our economic relations with Germany which holds first place among our trade partners. Our trade turnover with Germany is growing with each year: It stood at \$103 million in 1991, while in 1993 it was \$227 million. The volume of Belarusian export deliveries to Germany is also increasing: The rates of export growth stood at 18.3 and 56.6 percent in 1991 and 1993, respectively. If we interpret these dry figures along practical lines, every sixth dollar in the overall value of Belarusian exports is in our trade relations with Germany.

[Shymanskiy] What are the primary tasks of the foreign economic relations sector, let us say, in the immediate two to three years?

[Marynich] Let us discuss three large groups of such tasks. They are as follows: Foreign trade, direct investments and attracting credits, and development of the normative-legal basis.

Regarding the first group, it is necessary to stimulate the development of both exports and imports. We are going to decrease the share of barter deals, develop and implement the system of registering foreign trade operations. Such measures will toughen control over the prompt return of hard currency profits to Belarus. We have also outlined a variety of other important measures.

Foreign investments are of specific importance for the development of our economy. The system of control over the use and settlement of foreign loans—in particular, of those the repayment of which has been guaranteed by the government—should be developed. Procedures for specifying the participation of foreign investors in the privatization of state property should be simplified. The reliability of guarantees for foreign investors should, of course, be increased.

I will not discuss in detail the third group of our tasks. We should work hard to develop the normative-legal basis for our foreign economic activities.

[Shymanskiy] What moral qualities, in your opinion, should the officers of your ministry have?

[Marynich] Honesty and decency. High professional qualities are also required. Foreign states primarily form an opinion about Belarus based on the activities of our ministry officers. Therefore, we should observe honor and dignity of our state.

Ministry Issues Directive on Short-Term Bonds*WS2511091894 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in
Belarusian 0800 GMT 25 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] According to a directive of the Belarusian Cabinet of Ministers, the Finance Ministry has been instructed to issue the fourth parcel of short-term state bonds worth 20 billion rubles [R] with an 85-day circulation term. The nominal value of each bond is R10,000. The directive states that only the Belarusian Stock Exchange and the Interbank Foreign Currency Stock Exchange are authorized to handle short-term state bonds on the secondary [druhasny] market.

Lukashenka Meets With Trade Union Activists*LD2411174494 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in
Belarusian 0500 GMT 24 Nov 94*

[Report on address by Belarusian President Alyaksandr Rygoravich Lukashenka by Svyatlana Ilyushenka at the Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus on 23 November—Lukashenka remarks recorded, in Russian]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Ilyushenka] [passage omitted] A report was delivered by Alyaksandr Rygoravich Lukashenka, president of the Republic of Belarus. Here are some excerpts from the recording:

[Lukashenka] Today all of us politicians, economists, theoretical and practical scientists, and managers are convinced that the establishment of statehood is not a one-off phenomenon, but an extremely complicated process. It is not a question of giving independence to the state, but to ensure its secure and independent development, and to implement the principles of sovereignty both in the sphere of policy and the economy. [passage omitted] Profound transformations have come about in the world that have changed the disposition of forces and the directions of their interaction. The main lesson of history is that our people won the Second World War, but lost the contest for leadership that is being waged by economic methods. These are objective facts, so to speak.

[Ilyushenka] The president of the Republic of Belarus went on to note subjective mistakes, as a result of which disintegration processes arose in the political and economic spheres in the former republics of the USSR. [passage omitted] We are building our foreign policy on the basis of consent and mutual understanding with our neighbors. We are searching for ways of implementing our own views and approaches to ensure peace and international security and mutually advantageous cooperation, noted Alyaksandr Rygoravich Lukashenka.

[Lukashenka] Nobody has any doubt that our main partners are in the East. Interstate forms of cooperation have been formed and signed already. Links have been maintained between enterprises and industries. I want to note that our relations with the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States are not now the same

as relations between former republics of the Soviet Union. The last conference of heads of state of the Commonwealth in Moscow confirmed that we must not live by illusions and promises. We must live in the real world, and best of all be guided by the interests of the state.

Russia today is too drained of blood to continue being the selfless donor for countries of the near abroad as a result merely of the inertia of proletarian internationalism. However, in our relations with the CIS countries, including with Russia, the destructive role of economic nationalism is shown convincingly. [passage omitted]

We are gradually reaching the stage of forming our national foreign policy doctrine, the essence of which should be to overcome the external economic dependence of the government of the state of Belarus with equal opportunities taking consideration over the geopolitical position. Actually, we have already started on its elaboration and implementation.

[Ilyushenka] It was noted in the report that there is great potential for Belarus to cooperate with Ukraine. Mutual relations are successfully developing between our republic and Uzbekistan, and there is an agreement by the leadership of that country on supplies to Belarus of about 35,000 tonnes of cotton. The president of the Republic of Belarus went on to say:

[Lukashenka] Speaking about priorities in foreign policy, in no way do we forget about the western direction. The present Cabinet of Ministers has already conducted a series of meetings with leading representatives of international financial organizations, and the president of Belarus is to hold a series of important meetings at summit level in the very near future. I cannot fail in this part of my report to say the following: As soon as the president of the Republic of Belarus embarked on radical and sharp steps that some people did not like in the area of prices, especially the latest step, the West tried to stamp its foot. In connection with this, I must declare that the Republic of Belarus is sovereign not only in relation to the East, but also in relation to the West. We are a state that will conduct its policy in the interests of our people. And to stamp one's foot and moreover, to tell us what to do and what decrees the president of a sovereign state should sign is not what one should expect from politicians, whoever they may be, including Western ones.

However, we understand Belarus is not yet in a state to be compared with the countries of Europe according to the level of industrial and technical development, the structure of production, the rates of market transformations, the standard of living and professional qualifications of workers, the level of ensuring ecological safety, stability of sociopolitical development, and others. It must be borne in mind that to overcome this backwardness it will take a long time. This can be borne out even by the fact that the European Union was set up in post-war Europe for over 30 years. So, in assessing all the

realities we proceed from the fact that the construction of the European trunk road is very high politics, and a simplified approach to an assessment of our potential can only cause pipe-dreams and seriously hamper the real cause.

[Ilyushenka] As for the internal political situation in the republic, Alyaksandr Rygoravich Lukashenka stressed:

[Lukashenka] Take the situation that cannot be described as anything other than a political paradox. A group of MPs, most of whom voted for the introduction of corrections to the law on local self-government and local economy, through the Constitutional Court blocked the solution to the most important task—the creation of an executive vertical authority subordinate to the president—temporarily blocked it. You are aware of the decision of the Constitutional Court. And this presidential vertical structure will be set up within the next two weeks. [passage omitted]

That is why I would like to appeal to you with a request and an offer: The trade union's active role in carrying out economic changes can be seen in its assistance to the state to establish order at home. Active and working control must be established over spending and utilization of raw materials and energy resources. The fight against crime and corruption must rest on two mighty shoulders, the first one is the state bodies and the other one public and trade union organizations and voluntary people's patrol. I think that we could advance considerably if we follow the above routine. [passage omitted]

I would like to draw your attention to one more aspect, I mean largely forced contradictions between the president and the Cabinet of Ministers over the issue of prices. How many times can I dwell on this problem? The important thing here is the way the president approaches economic reforms. I am not against carrying out economic reforms, but there are reforms that bring wealth to people. I am against sharp and spasmodic moves, because the history of small and large states dictates to us that they have not brought any good to anybody. I am telling you openly for the umpteenth time that economic changes must be regulated by the state along with market mechanisms. I would like reforms to take place not for the sake of economy, but for people, taking into consideration working people's interests. [passage omitted]

[Ilyushenka] The report stated that at the republican level it is extremely important to ensure the active participation of the trade unions in the development of mechanisms for executing the program of urgent measures for getting the economy out of the crisis. The proposal of the Federation of Trade Unions of Belarus on setting up a public council, a round table with the participation of the president, the government, the Association of Entrepreneurs, and trade unions deserves attention. This would help prevent social conflicts. And about the following problems:

[Lukashenka] Now about those problems that our people are having to face every day: Wages and prices. Today, irrespective of the state of industry, the standard of people's lives cannot go any lower. You are right when you put forward the question of the necessity for correspondence between wages and the realistic cost of the labor force, raising wages, the cost of the product, and so on. Let us be honest. Who prevents the income rise at the production? Expand the volume of production, cut production costs, and raise wages. [passage omitted]

In this context, I am expecting from you more than anybody else specific offers, and Mr. Gancharyk [trade union leader of Belarus] knows it. One more pungent point of our life. You have recently discussed this problem with the representatives of the Supreme Council, the Cabinet of Ministers, specialists, and the trade union activists. You have discussed the government's draft decree on the order and conditions for allotting vital subsidies. I know those offers that you have prepared during the discussions. I agree that people will not be able to cover their housing expenses. Today, about 20-30 percent of the population in various regions have debts. At this rate, people simply will not be able to pay for their housing and communal services. I have ordered the Cabinet of Ministers to elaborate this document in further detail. First of all, the compensation for the housing expenses must not be full, but only at a discount rate that would depend on the specific mechanism suggested by the Cabinet of Ministers and the president. Second, it is necessary to give out a compensation at a high rate, but stage-by-stage, starting in the spring and summer when housing and communal services do not include heating. Third, the rise of the cost for housing services can only happen after the wages of the population have grown. [passage omitted]

[Ilyushenka] He went on to speak about other realities of our life. In conclusion, Alyaksandr Rygoravich Lukashenka, the president of the Republic of Belarus, noted:

[Lukashenka] Esteemed comrades, I would like you to understand one thing: I have visited you because you have played with the trade unions as other leaders used to do. I have not visited you in order to demonstrate some vague...[pauses] the weaknesses that others have for presidents. We have enough force, power, and I trust that there are enough people, too. I have visited you in order to have your support in these difficult times so that you and I become partners. Believe me, I have no other interests than those that you are defending on behalf of our people and the members of your trade unions. Thank you. [passage omitted]

Army on Structure Details, Kastenka Profiled
WS2311122994 Minsk BELAPAN in English 1800 GMT 21 Nov 94

[Unattributed report from the "Analysis, Commentaries, Forecasts" feature No. 6 15-21 November]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In accordance with the law "On the Armed Forces of the Republic of Belarus," the Belarusian Armed Forces consist of the Land Forces, Air Forces, Antiaircraft Forces, special troops, military educational institutions, as well as the departments, organizations and enterprises of the Ministry of Defense.

The Land Forces consist of three army corps.

The 28th Army Corps (AC) is stationed on the territories of Grodno Oblast and Brest Oblast (its headquarters is situated in Grodno). The 28th AC comprises 6th, 11th and 50th detached mechanized army brigades, an armament and equipment base as well as a number of corps units, including missile units, antiaircraft units, chemical and engineer troops, signal troops and elements of the corps' rear services.

The 65th AC is stationed on the territories of Minsk Oblast and Vitebsk Oblast (its headquarters is situated in Borisov). It comprises three armament and equipment bases and a number of corps units.

The 5th Guards Army Corps has two armament and equipment bases, a number of corps units and the 30th detached mechanized brigade. The 5th AC is stationed on the territory of Minsk Oblast and Mogilev Oblast (its headquarters is situated in Bobruysk).

If necessary, the armament and equipment bases may be transformed into combat formations and units. In accordance with Belarus' military doctrine, such structures are able to perform the tasks of flexible and active defense.

A brigade comprises 4-5 battalions, is 3,000-5,000 people strong (the overall strength of a former division was up to 14,000 people), and is not inferior to a former division in fire power. But the brigade is a formation for defense whereas divisions were formed for offensive operations.

The Air Forces comprise aircraft units for various purposes, they are able to perform tasks on protecting the most important establishments, provide air support to land forces, conduct air reconnaissance, radioelectronic combat, air transportation of troops and equipment, and others. They consist of air bases for various purposes and detached units of protection.

The Antiaircraft Forces perform tasks on protecting administrative, political, industrial centers, groups of the Armed Forces, important military and other establishments from enemy's air attacks. In peace and war time the Antiaircraft Forces perform their missions in a single system formed in cooperation with the antiaircraft formations and units of the Land Forces. They comprise antiaircraft missile brigades, antiaircraft missile regiments, detached groups of antiaircraft defense, units of radioelectronic reconnaissance.

The Special Troops are aimed at providing the combat activities of the Armed Forces and performing their own distinctive special tasks. They include reconnaissance

formations and units, engineer and chemical troops, signal troops, units for radioelectronic combat, formations and units of technical support, road-building, and motor-car units. They are an element of the Land Forces and the Rear of the Armed Forces.

The Rear of the Armed Forces performs the tasks of rear support to the Armed Forces.

Control over the Armed Forces is exercised by the Ministry of Defense that bears all responsibility for their development and preparation for performing tasks. Anatol Kastenka is Minister of Defense of Belarus.

Minister of Defense Anatol Kastenka—Some Traits

Colonel-General Kastenka has made a brilliant career working his way up from platoon commander to commander in chief of the Belarusian Military District. In the district he served as battalion commander, chief of staff in a regiment and division commander.

His appointment Minister of Defense met with a mixed reaction among regular officers. Some say he is a source of hopes for introducing good order and proper discipline in the Army, for toughening struggle against corruption among high-ranked commanding officers. Others maintain that the president should have selected a fresh man for ruling the Belarusian Armed Forces, the more so since, in accordance with order No. 0903 dated December 28, 1992, Kastenka was transferred to the reserve. In the world military practice there is no precedent for Kastenka's appointment Minister of Defense directly from the reserve.

It is supposed that the 54-year-old minister, most likely, will conduct the policy of introducing proper discipline and improving professional skill. Kastenka believes that the Belarusian Army, as an element of the former Soviet Union's Armed Forces has good traditions and an abundant experience, which should be used. He also pointed out repeatedly that he would make every effort to restore the dignity and honor of the officer's profession in the finest sense of the word.

Kastenka has two sons. Both of them are officers. The Minister's hobby is tennis. In his spare time, he prefers to go in for sports. The minister has not rejected the statement by the SVABODA newspaper that he has a "white card" (unfit for military service). He confirms that a medical commission pronounced him unfit for military service in peace-time, but he mentions that "this is a complicated problem." Kastenka also confirms that he, having assumed the office, never pledged allegiance to Belarus: "The president has appointed me minister, he has not called up me for active service. That is why not being on the active list I have no right to take the oath".

His attitude toward the Partnership for Peace program is rather positive. But as for Belarus' joining it, he maintains that Belarus should not be in a hurry. In an interview to ZVYAZDA he declared: "We may subscribe

to the program when we determine the degree of our participation in it. This degree may be different: from a full-scale participation, including the organization of joint large-scale exercises and so on, to a participation amounting to nothing more than an exchange of information or military school students. For us the economic aspect is the most important. This arrangement is expensive enough and we should calculate precisely all expenses and all incomes, weigh the pros and cons."

Moldova

New Union Looks To Unify Moldovan Ukrainians

AU2411184494 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1930
GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 23/11/1994—Viktor Grebenshikov, presidential counselor in national minorities' issues, relayed to BASA that last week, in Iablona, Glodeni district, the Moldovan Ukrainians' Union was created. It is headed by Moldovan Deputy Nicolae Oleinic. Oleinic told BASA that the Union was created to unify all Ukrainian cultural societies and consolidate the friendship between Moldovans and native Ukrainians. The Union will support the development of the Moldovan Ukrainians' culture and traditions which have much in common with the Moldovan traditions. National Minorities Department reports that five Ukrainian national-cultural organizations were registered in Moldova: "Prosvita" Teachers Society, Ukrainian Painters Union, Ukrainian Cultural Society, Ukrainian Women's Society, and "Moldova-Ukraine" Friendship Society. All these organizations have a coordinating council, whose chairperson is Svetlana Myslitskaya, Chisinau deputy mayor.

Ministry Denies Involvement at Vulcanesti

AU2311161694 Chisinau INFOTAG in English 2000
GMT 21 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau INFOTAG, 21/11/1994—The Moldovan deputy interior minister, Mihai Gorincioi, resolutely refuted the accusations of the Gagauz republic that the last week's armed incident in Vulcanesti had been provoked by Chisinau.

As was already informed by INFOTAG, the incident resulted in two Moldovan policemen wounded and three Gagauz guardsman seriously injured, with one of the latter having died shortly after.

The leadership of the self-styled Gagauz republic has regarded the case as a purposeful political provocation of

Chisinau aimed to postpone the adoption of the Gagauz status law at the second reading expected last week.

The Moldovan deputy interior minister said to INFOTAG that the bloody incident in South Moldova was a purely criminal case. On November 11, two Vulcanesti residents, Kirizi and Kostev, had beaten up the police commissar of the Vulcanesti area, Captain Franciu. The area's prosecutor initiated proceedings. However, the police then failed to arrest the two armed criminals wanted for several more crimes.

In this connection, an Interior Ministry's emergency group was sent to the area to seize them. The group detected them in a car. They did not only disobey the police's order to stop, but opened back fire. During the shooting, two policemen were heavily wounded, as well as Kirizi, Kostev and their driver.

Kirizi died shortly after. Kostev is in a hospital in Comrat, and the driver is in a military hospital in Bolgrad (Ukraine). The two wounded Moldovan policemen are now in a Comrat hospital, and the Gagauz administration is refusing to hand them over to Chisinau.

Mihai Gorincioi stressed there was no politics in the incident, and that viewpoint was shared by Gagauz leaders, including Gagauz president Stepan Topal, whom Gorincioi met with.

"However, certain political forces in Comrat are taking advantage of the fact that one of the criminals was a member of the Gagauz guards, and seeking to make a political affair of the incident. Appropriate investigation will clarify the truth. However, even now one can say the above efforts are doomed to failure," Deputy Interior Minister said.

Chisinau Uses CSCE Peacemakers in Dniester

LD2311212294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2104
GMT 23 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] United Nations November 23 TASS—Moldova proposes to take advantage of the opportune moment and send CSCE armed forces on a mission to the Dniester region, which will replace the outgoing 14th Russian Army, reads a statement of the Moldovan Permanent Mission at the United Nations, which was circulated here on Wednesday [23 November].

On November 16, the NATO political committee adopted a report called "Peace-Making Efforts in the Dniester Region: A Challenge for CSCE", which was delivered at the North-Atlantic assembly in Washington.

"The report includes recommendations for the 14th Russian Army's pull-out from Moldova and a political settlement of the conflict in the Dniester region. The North-Atlantic assembly called on the CSCE council of ministers to consider stationing of international peace-making forces in Moldova under the auspices of the CSCE," the statement says.

"Moldovan deputy parliament speaker Nikolaye Andronik told the assembly that the latest substantial reduction in the Russian "disengagement force" in Tiraspol makes it both necessary and opportune to station recognized international peace-making forces there," the statement reads.

General To Visit Troops, Discuss Withdrawal

LD2411134394 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1100 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Colonel General Georgiy Kondratyev, Russian deputy defense minister, is today planning a trip to the 14th Army and the Russian peace-keeping contingent stationed in the Dniester region. Also, he is to meet leaders of the Moldovan Defense Ministry. According to informed sources, they will discuss problems of the partial withdrawal of the Russian peace-keepers' military hardware from the Dniester region as well as the issues of reshaping the 14th Army and turning it into a military base in the near future.

Kazakhstan

Uranium Deal With United States Confirmed

LD2311133594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1311 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Alma-Ata [Almaty] November 23 TASS—The Kazakh Foreign Ministry confirmed on Wednesday [23 November] that Alma-Ata and Washington had reached an agreement to transfer some 600 kilogrammes of highly enriched uranium stored at the Ulbinskiy metallurgical plant in Kazakhstan to the United States.

"Upon the initiative of Kazakhstan which has concluded an agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) regarding full-scale guarantees, the uranium is transferred to the USA which is a country-depository of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty for purposes of diminishing the risk of proliferation of such weapons", the ministry said in a statement.

"This step is undertaken in the context of measures drafted by Kazakhstan to ensure the safety of its nuclear materials and reduce to the minimum the risk of their proliferation", the ministry said.

Russia Said Aware of Uranium Sale

LD2411120394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1142 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kazakhstan's agreement to move 600 kg of highly-enriched uranium to the United States was not an unpleasant surprise for Russia, the press service chief of the Russian Atomic Energy Ministry has said. Georgiy Kaurov explained that Russia was notified of Kazakhstan's intention to sell the uranium and even invited to buy it back in 1993.

Kaurov explained that when the USSR broke up, the Ulbinskii metallurgical plant making fuel assemblies for nuclear reactors found itself in an independent Kazakhstan. At that time the plant had 167 kg of a beryllium alloy with 90-percent enriched uranium-235 and about 28 kg of uranium dioxide with a 90-percent enrichment for uranium-235.

Kaurov said that the fuel assemblies were made for nuclear reactors of submarines and transport ships of the first generation. Fuel of that type is no longer in use.

In 1993 Kazakhstan invited Russia to purchase the uranium for \$14,000 a kilo. However, Russia rejected the offer, because it has enough nuclear materials of its own and lacks the know-how to extract pure uranium from the beryllium alloy to make nuclear arms.

Kaurov said that during the Russian government delegation's visit to the United States last December the American side recommended the Russian Atomic

Energy Minister Viktor Mikhaylov to purchase the uranium from Kazakhstan to lessen the risk of its proliferation. Another option was offered, too. The United States would purchase the uranium from Kazakhstan and hand it over to Russia for safe-keeping. Mikhaylov rejected that proposal.

Kaurov said that the uranium could not be used to make nuclear arms. He said that extracting pure uranium from the alloy would be extremely difficult. He said he did not rule out the Americans were ignorant [that they] were buying a uranium-beryllium alloy.

Russian-Kazakh Oil Talks Held in Almaty

LD2311113794 Almaty PANORAMA in Russian 19 Nov 94 p7

[FBIS Translated Text] This week a delegation from the Russian state company Rosneft [Russian Oil] visited Almaty. During the visit the guests, together with representatives of the Muniegaz [Oil and Gas] company, discussed a number of joint projects, in particular, on an oil exchange between Russia and Kazakhstan. To keep the oil refineries of both countries fully occupied Russia will supply hydrocarbon raw materials to the plants of Chimkent and Pavlodar and Kazakhstan will supply the Samara plant as was done during the USSR period. Annually each side will supply around four million tonnes of oil.

However possible cooperation between the Kazakh and Russian oil companies is not limited just to this. The Russians have expressed an interest in buying Kazakh coal, corn and non-ferrous metals. Rosneft can pay for these goods in oil and petroleum products. This proposal, evidently, will arouse the interest of the Kazakh side. Besides Rosneft is looking for a new market in Kazakhstan which is less saturated than the Russian market. The company intends to sell about four million tonnes of various petroleum products in our republic annually. The Russian oil industry workers who have free technical and personnel resources also offered the Kazakh side their assistance in the capital repair of oil wells and in the exploitation of 1-2 oil deposits. The specific deposits have not been determined yet but Kazakhstan's interest in the proposals is evident.

The local specialists for their part are ready to propose that the Russians participate in joint oil prospecting on the Caspian Sea shelf. Taking into consideration the situation around the oil riches of the Caspian Sea of late, one can surmise that Rosneft will accept the proposal.

As yet the mutual proposals are intentions, but if they are realized, then Kazakh-Russian relations in the oil sphere will lose their confrontational nature and will really become the relations of partners.

Refinery Replaces Russian Oil With Kazakh

LD2511093294 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 0400 GMT 25 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] In accordance with a resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kazakh republic, the

Chimkent oil refinery is to receive 30,000 tonnes of Aktyubinsk oil each month. The amount is intended to increase the volume of supplies in future. So now petroleum products will be produced from our own raw materials.

Last week the major enterprise, which was fully dependant on Russian oil, was forced to stop operation.

The Aktyubinsk oil will enable the Chimkent refinery to work at full capacity.

Iran Ready To Allow Transit of Kazakh Oil

LD2511115394 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1108 GMT 25 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] During a meeting with 'Ali Akbar Rafsanjani, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Abish Kekilbayev, chairman of the Kazakh parliament, who arrived in Tehran yesterday on a three-day official visit, said that Kazakhstan wants to export its oil through Iranian territory. Iran could become the most convenient, cheapest route linking Kazakhstan with world markets, he added.

President Rafsanjani confirmed Iran's readiness to grant Kazakhstan the necessary conditions and means for transporting oil to Europe. He expressed his country's interest in developing cooperation with Kazakhstan in other fields, first and foremost rail and maritime transport, communications and banking.

On the same day Kekilbayev, head of the parliamentary delegation, met with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and visited the mausoleum of Ayatollah Khomeini, the founder of the Islamic Republic.

Apart from talks in the capital of the Islamic Republic, Kekilbayev's program includes visits to Mashhad and Esfahan.

Iran is the first foreign state which Kekilbayev has visited officially as chairman of the Supreme Council of Kazakhstan.

Parliamentary Delegation Departs for Iran, Pakistan

LD2311201494 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1500 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A Kazakh parliamentary delegation, led by Supreme Council Chairman Abish Kekilbayev, left for official visits to Iran and Pakistan today.

During its visit to Iran, the delegation will be received by President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Majles Chairman 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri.

In Pakistan they will be received by President Farooq Ahmad Leghari, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, National Assembly Speaker Sayed Yusuf Raza Gilani, and Senate chairman Wasim Sajjad. In both countries

the Kazakh members of parliament will meet their counterparts and visit some provinces.

EBRD Delegation Considers Draft Assistance Programs

LD2411171194 Almaty KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 19 Nov 94 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Akezhan Kazhegeldin received a delegation of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD]. The delegation is led by Rolf Westling, the head of the bank's department for Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

Westling informed the prime minister about the results of a preliminary study in his international financial organization of draft programs for giving the republic assistance in the modernization of its banking system and a number of specific enterprises. It was noted that if the programs are implemented, the country will be allocated 200 to 300 million ecus. A credit line for the private sector worth 100 million ecus will be opened by the end of this year.

Among the projects being considered, Westling singled out the construction of a pipeline to transport the oil being extracted in Kazakhstan's sector of the Caspian Sea coast and the development of several deposits of hydrocarbon raw materials and gold. The EBRD said that it was interested in investing its own funds in the construction of arteries for the transportation of oil. It is ready to channel as much capital as other participants into the construction and counts on taking the coordinating functions upon itself to carry out the project.

Prime Minister Kazhegeldin highly appreciated the EBRD's intentions. At the same time he expressed the desire that all the formalities connected with giving the planned credits should be speedily concluded.

Westling assured him that the bank would make the appropriate changes to the plans concerning Kazakhstan. However, in his turn he proposed that work be intensified on improving the legislative basis of the republic as regards providing more reliable protection for foreign investments and on creating a suitable material stimulus.

Jacek Bzhezinskiy, the head of the bank's Kazakhstan mission, which opened a few days ago in Almaty, took part in the conversation.

Court Dismisses Case Against Russian Journalist

LD2411121294 Almaty KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 19 Nov 94 p3

[FBIS Translated Text] The Supreme Court of the Republic of Kazakhstan has considered the appeal by journalist Boris Suprunyuk and his lawyers against the decision of the Northern Kazakhstan regional court of 2 September 1994. A citizen of the Russian Federation, Boris Suprunyuk was found guilty of committing a crime covered by Article 60 of the Criminal Code of the

Republic of Kazakhstan—the premeditated public dissemination of opinions and ideas undermining confidence in and respect for the Kazakh people and stirring up ethnic discord. He was given a sentence of two years imprisonment suspended for two years. During the investigation Boris Suprunyuk spent about six weeks in detention.

The journalist and his lawyer appealed against the decision calling it illegal and pointing out the inadmissibility of the practice of prosecuting citizens for their convictions. The collegium of the Supreme Court examined several folders containing articles from dozens of Kazakh and Russian newspapers, including speeches by officials, as evidence of wrong decisions being taken on social and ethnic issues in Kazakhstan which cause migration of the Russian-speaking population and other negative actions. Just listing such facts took more than an hour and probably the most harmless and curious of them was the renaming of “Russian” vodka in Petropavlosk—now called “Kyzylzhar” vodka.

“I spoke and wrote only about what is around us,” Boris Suprunyuk said, “but I was arrested and convicted on political grounds in order to be shown as an example. Instead of prosecuting the true culprits of today’s disastrous situation for Kazakh, Russian and other peoples residing in Kazakhstan, the authorities decided to punish as an example the journalist who called a spade a spade.”

Having studied the materials of the case, the collegium, led by the first deputy chairman of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, M. Narikbayev, allowed the appeal and overruled the decision of the Northern Kazakhstan regional court and halted the case as there was no corpus delicti in Boris Suprunyuk’s actions.

Thus justice has triumphed. Now Boris Suprunyuk has the right to raise the issue of the accountability of officials who have violated the law and also demand damages for the moral harm caused to him by the bodies of law and order. The question remains: will the right conclusions be drawn from this by all interested parties?

Licenses Required to Bury Radioactive Waste

LD2411141594 *Almaty PANORAMA in Russian*
19 Nov 94 p 1

[Unattributed article: “Ministry of Ecology to Issue Temporary Licenses to Bury Radioactive Waste”]

[FBIS Translated Text] An enterprise should submit not less than five documents to the Ministry of Ecology and Biological Resources in order to obtain a temporary license for the burial of radioactive waste. The resolution on the procedures for obtaining temporary licenses to bury radioactive waste in the Republic of Kazakhstan, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers on 11 October, stipulates precisely, apart from the procedures for issuing licenses and a strict classification of the waste itself, where, in what storage facilities, and how the

ecological operation should be carried out. It is established that a temporary license should be issued (or withheld) within 30 days and be valid for six months. Examples of some of the documentation necessary for issuing and obtaining temporary licenses are provided in the appendix to the government’s decision.

Kyrgyzstan

EBRD Funds Telecommunications Modernization

LD2311113694 *Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio Network in Russian* 0600 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Kyrgyz Republic and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD] signed an agreement on credits for telecommunications projects worth \$8 million and an additional allocation of \$1.5 million for free technical aid. These facilities are intended to develop and improve the telecommunications systems in many mountainous regions which will help to improve the quality of communications by using modern equipment and technology.

Prime Minister Meets ICO Secretary General

LD2411175194 *Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian* 1000 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Kylychbek Dusunbetov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Bishkek, 24 Nov—Dr. Hamid Algabid, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, today told Kyrgyz Prime Minister Abbas Dzhumagulov about the work being done in the run-up to the 22nd conference of countries belonging to the Islamic Conference Organization and the next summit meeting. He arrived on Wednesday on a visit to Bishkek.

Dzhumagulov informed the guest of the socio-economic situation of the republic, and told him of the potential of Kyrgyzstan, which cooperates with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, and donor countries including the USA, Gt. Britain, and Turkey.

Contacts have been established, too, with the Islamic Development Bank, which has promised to give the republic a credit on mutually advantageous terms. Kirghizia [Kyrgyzstan] has a vast potential for investments, specifically in developing its reserves of gold, tin, tungsten, oil and gas, processing agricultural products, as well as in the sphere of machine-building. Hamid Algabid gave assurance that the Islamic Development Bank would take part in the implementation of the projects discussed.

ICO Secretary General Hamid Algabid is to meet Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev this afternoon.

Russian Units Include Military Intelligence

LD2311141494 *Bishkek VECHERNIY BISHKEK in Russian* 21 Nov 94 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] According to information from a confidential source, the so-called (in specialist jargon)

third line of the group of Russian border guards in Kyrgyzstan has been considerably strengthened. We are talking about the military counter-intelligence directorate. Its personnel has been increased several times over—up to 49 people.

For comparison the similar service of the Ministry of Defense of Kyrgyzstan—the information and analysis center—consists of just six people. In other words there is a “guardian” for every 60 border guards. It could be supposed that the third line is responsible for collecting and analyzing information relating to political factors, prospects and forecasts of the development of the situation in the region. Most likely the reinforced analytical service is charged with obtaining intelligence data about the intentions of Middle Eastern and western countries, which are trying to increase their influence in Central Asia.

Time will show how much this action works for the consolidation of the Kyrgyz-Chinese frontier. By the way measures like this in no way contradict the inter-state accord on the status of the group of Russian border guards in our republic.

Osh Region Has 1,900 Refugees From Tajikistan *LD2311115994*

[FBIS Editorial Report] Osh EKHO OSHA in Russian on 12 November carries on page 1 an unattributed report on refugees in Kyrgyzstan from Tajikistan. The report begins by noting that Kyrgyzstan's Osh region has a population of 1,460,000, of whom 720,000 are men and 740,000 women; 669,000 people able to work, 538,200 of whom are engaged in production and 81,500 of whom are not working.

The report goes on to state that by 25 September 1994 there were 392 refugee families, or 1,866 refugees, from the Tajik Republic in Osh region. Their ethnic composition, the paper states, is as follows: 1,483 ethnic Kyrgyz, 200 Uzbeks, 175 Tajiks, four Russians, and four Tartars.

For the time being, the paper writes, 420,000 soms out of the amount which the UN High Commissioner for Refugees promised after visiting the refugees in June 1993 and August 1994 has been distributed in the districts where the refugees have settled.

The report concludes by noting that local authorities are taking all the necessary measures to provide the refugees with food, medical services, and jobs.

Akayev Says Agricultural Reforms Crucial

LD2311172594 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Kyrgyz 0600 GMT 21 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] As already reported, an international conference on agriculture opened in Bishkek under the chairmanship of Kyrgyz Prime Minister Abbas Dzhumagulov yesterday.

Participants include private farmers, the heads of ministries and government departments, peasant associations, educational establishments, the heads of regional and district administrations, presidential and government staff members, and representatives of international organizations—the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the United Nations Development Program, the international fund for agricultural development, and so on.

In his welcoming address to participants in the conference, Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev noted that the reforms currently being carried out in the republic's agricultural industry are of a make-or-break nature, because the agricultural sector is a priority for Kyrgyzstan. Success of the reforms would mean a substantial reduction in unemployment and an increase in the living standards of the majority of the population. The task is now to implement the third part of the reform as fast as possible, bearing in mind all the errors made in earlier phases of the reform.

This conference must serve as a kind of catalyst for developing further reform policy for agriculture, and must clarify the strategic areas for this policy. We are cooperating closely with many international organizations, which are of invaluable assistance to our work. Above all we should mention the World Bank and its representative, (Michael Guld), the head of the bank's agriculture, industry, and finance department.

The laws and decrees passed in the republic and the resolutions issued by the government create solid legal foundations for the reforms, open up broad scope for them, and confirm that the policy the republic has chosen is irreversible.

Abbas Dzhumagulov presented a well-grounded report. He described the stages which the republic has gone through in the reform process, assessed them, pointed out all the positive things which have already been achieved, and raised a number of problems yet to be solved. The prime minister spoke about the prospects of the development of sheep and other livestock farming and tobacco and cotton growing under market and private enterprise conditions. He also spoke about the need to develop processing industries and about steps to radically reorganize management structures, specifically within the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. He dwelt in detail on the assistance which international organizations and foreign countries are giving Kyrgyzstan to implement the reforms.

On the first day at the conference other speakers included the head of the department of the World Bank (Guld); First Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food Talgarbekov; farmers Imanaliyev, Kim, and Akmatov; the head of Dzhumgarskiy district state administration, Samudinov; the deputy head of Osh Region state administration Osmonov; Finance Minister Nanayev; and others.

The conference continues today.

Tajikistan

Agreement With China on Joint Pharmaceutical Venture

LD2311142194 Dushanbe Tajik Radio Network in Tajik 0800 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A two-week visit by a delegation from the Chinese Academy of Sciences to Tajikistan ended successfully. (Sjun Sjan), leader of the Chinese delegation and deputy director of the Zoology Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and (Mansurov), vice president of the Tajik Academy of Sciences and director of the Gastroenteritis Research Institute, signed a protocol on a joint pharmaceutical venture when the talks ended. According to this protocol a joint venture will be set up on the basis of the Tajik Gastroenteritis Research Institute. The research institute will provide the future venture with a building, a laboratory, and technical employees as well as equipment, formulae, and methods of checking the medicine. The Chinese side will send equipment for production and packing and it has also taken responsibility for training technicians.

In the first phase, the joint venture will produce medicines for the treatment of diabetes and jaundice as well as producing sedatives based on snake serum.

The agreement will go into effect after it is approved by the Academies of Sciences of China and Tajikistan.

Action Urged After Journalist's Murder

LD2311172894 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1200 GMT 22 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Statement from the presidium of the Central Council of the Uzbek Society in Tajikistan:

At 1745 on 17 November 1994, a member of the Central Council's presidium, Hamidjon Hakimov, the editor of the Uzbek language newspaper HAQQ SOZI of the Uzbek Society in Tajikistan, was savagely killed on the threshold of his house.

The method and style of the murder of one of the founders of the Uzbek Society in Tajikistan was an act planned and carried out with the intention of damaging the foundations of the traditional friendship between the Uzbek and Tajik peoples and to destabilize the situation of this political community after the election of Emomali Rakhmanov as Tajik president.

We ask the law enforcement bodies to expose this savage act immediately and to severely punish the murderer of the experienced journalist and Tajikistan patriot Hamidjon Hakimov in an open court trial, and to conduct an investigation into this crime under special supervision.

The Central Council presidium of the Uzbek Society in Tajikistan severely condemns all acts of terrorism and demands an end to such actions. We ask the Supreme

Presidential Council to take decisive measures to safeguard the lives of citizens of the republic.

[signed] The Presidium of the Central Council of the Uzbek Society of Tajikistan.

Defense Ministry Official Fails in Hijack Attempt

LD2411092894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0829 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Styazhkin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Stavropol, 24 Nov—A terrorist armed with a pistol who attempted last night to hijack a Tu-154 plane to Iran, was disarmed in the air by a militia colonel who was among the passengers. The hijacker turned out to be Haydar Karimov, a professional military man, a lieutenant colonel and deputy head of the foreign economic department of the Ministry of Defense of Tajikistan.

Immediately after departure from Dushanbe, under the influence of alcohol, he issued an ultimatum to the captain of the airliner on the Dushanbe-Stavropol-Moscow route, demanding to fly to Iran and threatening the passengers with violence. However, Gaydar Ganiyev, chief of staff of the Dushanbe internal affairs department of Tajikistan, who was in the plane dressed in civilian clothes, kept his cool, used painful force and immobilized the criminal.

The plane continued its course to Stavropol where the terrorist was handed over to the local militia. A criminal case has been opened.

FCS Sees Hijacking Attempt as 'Hooliganism'

LD2411180194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1617 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Federal Counterintelligence Service (FCS) Stavropol region department did not see the attempt to hijack a plane by Tajik Lieutenant Colonel Haydar Karimov as a terrorist act, a spokesman for the department told Interfax Thursday.

Some media reported that Karimov attempted to hijack a plane Tu-154 belonging to the Tajik air company following from Dushanbe to Moscow via Stavropol Wednesday.

According to the spokesman, the Regional Transport Prosecutor's Office is also inclined to consider the incident as hooliganism and institute criminal proceedings against Karimov on this very criminal offense.

According to the department, during the flight Karimov was heavily drunk. Witnesses said that he did threaten to hijack the plane, being almost unconscious, but fell asleep immediately after the threat.

The Tajik officer was carrying a properly authorized and registered handgun. After landing in Stavropol, Karimov was handed to the law-enforcement bodies.

The department did not rule out that after looking into the case Karimov will be let free in 24 hours.

Meanwhile, a high-ranking officer of the Tajik Security Ministry told Interfax that Karimov will be taken to Dushanbe to face trial.

Rakhmanov Welcomes Weapons Surrender by People's Front

LD2411175494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1538 GMT 24 Nov 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Emomali Rakhmanov has welcomed yesterday's move by former militants of the People's Front who began surrendering weapons at Tursun-zade 60 kilometers west of the capital Dushanbe. He described it as the start of general disarmament in the republic. Tursun-zade is a leading industrial center and has the world's third largest aluminum plant.

In an interview with Interfax, the Tajik leader expressed the hope that the process of surrender of illegal weapons will be speeded up. Rakhmanov says that an overall disarmament and the disbanding of illegal armed units is his main task.

Commander of the CIS peacekeeping force in Tajikistan Valeriy Patrikyev attending the ceremony of weapons surrender spoke of common sense now prevailing in the republic.

He expressed the hope that other rebel units would follow suit. Patrikyev pledged that his force would work together with the Tajik Government and people to try to avert any fratricide there in future.

IF [Interfax] Note: Two years ago, part of the residents of Tursun-zade joined the ranks of rebel units of the People's Front set up in August 1992 "to defend the constitution against attacks by Islamic fundamentalists and allied democrats". By early 1993, the well-armed rebel force numbered some 2,500 members in Gissar Valley alone. When the country's civil war ended in the same year, the rebels surrendered about 90 percent of their weapons to police units and security forces. But they held back to some 1,000 units of firearms and ammunition, according to the security ministry.

Deputy Interior Minister Almirkul Azimov described the latest arms surrender as the first serious step on the way to national reconciliation and glaring evidence of support for the president who called for all problems to be resolved in a peaceful way. In an interview with Interfax, Azimov said that after inspection and repair, the surrendered weapons and armor would be stored or used on the Afghan border.

Meeting Held To Accelerate Economic Transformations

LD2411173794 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1100 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Jamshid Karimov, the state counsellor to the president of Tajikistan on socioeconomic issues, has held a meeting devoted to issues of accelerating the economic transformations in the republic and the transition to the market economy. It was held taking into account the speech by the head of state Emomali Rakhmanov at the 21st session of the country's Supreme Council of the 12th convocation. The heads of ministries, departments, large industrial enterprises, national and commercial banks, and commercial structures of the country were present at the meeting.

Valuable proposals about bringing legal documents into line with the demands of the market economy were put forward at the meeting. The importance of further improving customs and tax policy, as well as creating favorable conditions for foreign investments in the national economy were emphasized. It was mentioned at the meeting that without the liberalization of foreign economic trade it is impossible to achieve fruitful results in trading.

Specific proposals submitted during the meeting are being thoroughly studied in the president's administration. These and other proposals arriving from various regions of the republic will be collected and they will be used as a basis for the practical work on accelerating economic transformations in Tajikistan.

Turkmenistan

President Returns After 'Triumphant' European Tour

LD2411173294 Ashgabat TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 22 Nov 94 p 1

[By TURKMEN PRESS correspondent L. Glazovskaya]

[FBIS Translated Text] The official visit by the head of Turkmenistan to European countries has ended. Today he returned home, where he was met with a warm and joyful welcome. The Turkmen president was welcomed by the Majlis [Parliament] Chairman Sakhat Muradov and the heads of ministries and departments.

The head of Turkmenistan's visit to the European countries was indeed triumphant. In the person of Saparmurad Niyazov, Austria, Romania, and Slovakia greeted not only the leader of independent Turkmenistan but also a policy known throughout the world—whose foreign policy doctrine of open doors and positive neutrality have in just two years of existence received a wide response in the world, by becoming part of the worldwide political process with its strongly expressed peace-keeping tendency.

Today, both East and West have recognized the Turkmen president's efforts directed along the course of this process. Saparmurad Turkmenbashi's visit to Europe has proved this with all clarity and obviousness.

This evening [21 November], the president stepped onto the ground of his homeland, the flag of which has been flying with dignity for several days in Europe, winning the recognition and respect of Europeans for Turkmenistan, its people, and its leader.

UN Mission Opens in Ashgabat

LD2511101394 *Ashgabat TURKMENISTAN in Turkmen 11 Nov 94 p1*

["UN Mission Opened in Ashgabat"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] On 8 November Omer Ertur, the UN representative in Turkmenistan, presented his credentials to our foreign minister, Khalykberdy Atayev, and commenced his duties.

The opening of the UN mission in Ashgabat will make it possible to coordinate all the UN structures and agencies operating in Turkmenistan and resolve many problems arising during the transition period on the spot. Mr. Ertur said that most attention should be paid to matters in the social sphere. In line with this UN experts together with scholars from the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan have already been carrying out work within the framework of the world-wide program - indices of development of the human factor. Research is already being carried out in such vitally important fields as ecology, health and education and the results will be given to the UN.

The organization of a system for transferring theoretical knowledge will be a major aspect of the work of UN structures in Turkmenistan. As Mr. Ertur said graphically: "We do not give people fish, we teach them how to fish." [passage omitted]

Currently the UN mission is working on a program of technical and financial assistance to Turkmenistan. The social and economic fields in the national-economic complex will be priorities in this program and much attention will be paid to ecological problems. Moreover, as Mr. Ertur noted, the Turkmen government has the final say in determining the fields of cooperation.

New Bank Plans Oil Industry Investments

LD1811160894 *Ashgabat TURKMENISTAN in Russian 10 Nov 94 p 1*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Khudayguly Kerimov, president of the Turkmenistan International Bank for Reconstruction says: Our bank will be as authoritative as the European bank.

The effect of funds from Russia and other foreign countries in Turkmenistan has brought a new lease of life to the work of the republic's financial and commercial structure. Following the example of setting up the banks

involving private and mixed funds in Tashkent and Baku, a number of such banks have appeared in Ashgabat, Mary, and Turkmenbashi [formerly Krasnovodsk]. [passage omitted]

Turkmenistan's new banking system has in the main been formed. As in all other CIS countries, it was set up on the relevant legal foundations and carries out its activities at two levels: With the Central Bank at the high level and with joint-stock and commercial banks at a lower level.

The establishment of the Turkmenistan International Bank for Reconstruction, Development, and Enterprise can be described as a product of the open doors policy announced by the Turkmen President Saparmyrat Turkmenbashi [Saparmurad Niyazov]. Its tasks are to promote exports of Turkmen oil and gas to world markets and, related to this, to help construct transnational pipelines and find and supervise the investments needed to reconstruct our refining industry. In addition, of course, it envisages helping to increase production of cotton, grain, fruit and vegetables and to back the republic's agricultural industry complex.

The establishment of free enterprise economic zones has borne fruit. Currently 711 industrial objects are being built in Turkmenistan. One in seven is an enterprise involving foreign firms, and 30 involve foreign capital. We are thus using credit to render comprehensive assistance to these construction projects. At the same time, in addition to funding these projects and rendering financial services we are helping to reconstruct old industrial capacities.

The board of our bank is trying to live up to expectations, and to be worthy of its name and similar to the European bank. We are working in close cooperation with the World Bank in Washington, Asian Development Bank (Manila), the African Development Bank, the Is Bank and Halk Bank in Turkey, and other similar specialized international banking organizations.

Nor are we standing aside from banking integration in the CIS countries. The Cabinet of Ministers has instructed us to establish direct cooperation with Russian joint-stock and commercial banks. A branch of the Rossiyskiy Credit bank will open in Ashkhabad [Ashgabat] in the near future, and we are currently conducting negotiations with the following Moscow banks: Kredobank, Menatep, Neftekhimbank, and Neftegazotrybank.

The readers of DELOVOY MIR newspaper will be interested to know that our project on rendering start-to-finish services to foreign companies involves two stages. Implementation of the tasks involved in each stage are directed toward one main goal—rapid completion of the buildings belonging to institutions in which we invest. For this purpose the Turkmenistan International Bank for Reconstruction, Development and

Enterprise uses information-technology communications with foreign banks as well as the Swift computerized banking system.

Like the Investkombank, Agroprombank, and Turkmenistan Bank, which also operate in Turkmenistan's foreign economic sector, we consider that the time when banks did only passive operations, in other words, merely transaction services, has past. As in Russia, there is an increasing likelihood that banks' active operations in the currency market will largely be taken over by the credit market. [passage omitted]

Uzbekistan

President Karimov Receives EBRD Delegation

LD2311195294 Tashkent Uzbekistan Television in Russian 1400 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Today Islam Karimov, the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan met a delegation from the board of directors of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD].

Welcoming the guests, Karimov expressed satisfaction with the state of affairs and prospects for cooperation between Uzbekistan and the EBRD. The Uzbek president praised the bank's role in rendering assistance to its members in implementing structural and sector-by-sector economic reforms in order to promote speedy integration of the former Soviet states into the world economic community.

Karimov noted that only two years have passed since we began cooperating, but much has been done. We are especially gratified by the fact that the European Bank has abolished the negative security [negativnyy zalog] applied to Uzbekistan.

The president described the progress of economic reforms in our republic. Training for Uzbek specialists at major financial institutes in West European countries was among the topics discussed.

Jacques Reberdin, the head of the delegation from the EBRD board of directors, praised the economic reforms being implemented in the republic and acknowledged the justification for and effectiveness of implementing them consistently and gradually.

During the conversation it was confirmed that the European Bank will follow its traditions by continuing to promote the transition to an open economy, the orientation toward the market, and the development of private enterprise in the Central Asian countries.

Uzbek Deputy Prime Ministers Bakhtiyar Khamidov and Kayim Khakkulov, Rustam Azimov, who is board chairman of the National Foreign Economic Bank of Uzbekistan and EBRD manager for Uzbekistan, and other officials took part in the meeting.

Meets With Finance Minister

LD2411102294 Tashkent NARODNOYE SLOVO in Russian 23 Nov 94 p 1

[Unattributed article: "Meeting in the Ministry of Finance"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Bakhtiyar Khamidov, Uzbek deputy prime minister and finance minister, 22 November met with a delegation from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD], headed by Mr. Jacques Riverdin.

The conversation noted that implementation of the reforms in Uzbekistan has entered a decisive phase and the importance of cooperation with the EBRD in this process was stressed. Particular attention was paid to the prospects for cooperation in the sphere of mining and processing Uzbekistan's underground resources.

Jacques Riverdin expressed his satisfaction with the development of ties between Uzbekistan and the EBRD. He noted that conditions created in the country for investors are an effective factor in the extension of mutually beneficial interests.

The same day members of the EBRD delegation were received at the Uzbek Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations.

EBRD To Fund Upgrades

LD2411112094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0625 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) intends to broaden cooperation with Uzbekistan, a delegation of the EBRD board told Uzbek President Islam Karimov in Tashkent Wednesday [23 November].

The head of the EBRD delegation, Jacques Reverdin, said the bank was likely to fund the reconstruction of the republic's airports estimated at \$500 million. In addition, the EBRD plans to channel resources for upgrading the Uzbek textile and processing industries.

Reverdin said he was satisfied with progress in cooperation between Uzbekistan and the EBRD. He pointed out that the country had created favorable investment conditions "which were a positive factor for widening the scope of mutually beneficial interests."

The EBRD is one of Uzbekistan's main creditors. In particular, the bank financed 50

of the U.S.-Uzbek joint venture Zerafshan-Newmont set up to extract gold from solid waste at the Muruntau site and estimated at \$105 million.

In addition, the EBRD opened Uzbekistan a credit line worth \$60 million in the end of last year to support the republic's small and medium-sized businesses.

The delegation's program also includes talks with government officials, representatives of various ministries and the National Foreign Economic Relations Bank.

Najibollah-led Afghan Delegation Received

LD2311204994 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Esteemed Dr. Najibollah who, at the head of an Afghan delegation, had gone to the Republic of Uzbekistan, met and held talks yesterday morning with Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan Abdulaziz Kamilov.

At this meeting both sides discussed and exchanged views on subjects of mutual interest and they have expressed hope that the visit of the high-ranking delegation from the Islamic State of Afghanistan to Tashkent opens a new chapter in relations between the two countries and in the removal of misunderstandings and existing problems. [passage indistinct]

Natural Gas Supply Stopped for Nonpayment

LD2411174594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1617 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] On Thursday [24 November] Uzbekistan stopped shipments of natural gas to Kyrgyzstan explaining this by non-payments on the part of Kyrgyzstan, a well-informed source in the Uzbek Government reported to Interfax.

In accordance with the agreement on trade-economic cooperation between two neighboring states signed on January 16, 1994 in Bishkek this year Uzbekistan was to deliver 1.4 billion cubic meters of natural gas to Kyrgyzstan.

According to the industrial association Uztransgaz, as of October 1, 1994 the republic has shipped 687.929 million cubic meters of gas. Kyrgyzstan's debt for natural gas only on this trade-economic agreement concluded in 1994 totalled \$5 million.

Official sources from Kyrgyzstan report that as of today Kyrgyzstan's debt to Uzbekistan for the gas delivered in 1993-1994 is \$7.5 million.

Kyrgyzstan's Industry and Trade Minister Andrey Jordan said that now the republic is urgently looking for money to pay off the debt. He believes that Kyrgyzstan's debt to Uzbekistan could have been liquidated if Kazakhstan had paid to Kyrgyzstan for electric power being consumed by this republic.

Tashkent Said To Block Georgian Gas Supplies

LD2311210694 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1855 GMT 23 Nov 94

[From the "Novosti" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] The resumption of gas supply from Turkmenistan to Georgia which was to have taken place today will be postponed at least until this Saturday [26 November]. Uzbek representatives have said that there is no possibility to repair the accident on the Uzbek section of the pipeline which took place over a week ago. Meanwhile, head of the Georgian gas department told INTERFAX that there was no accident at the Uzbek section of the pipeline. According to him, Uzbekistan cut off the pipeline demanding that payment for the transit of gas be increased.

Start of Limited Land Privatization Decreed

LD2411174294 Tashkent Uzbekistan Television in Uzbek 1400 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] By edict of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of land use in the republic and increasing the interest of the population in the growth in incomes from plots of land, town and district administrations are allowed to sell at auction plots of land of up to 0.4 hectares [ha] for individual house building and up to 0.6 ha for subsistence farming to citizens for life-long hereditary ownership.

As an experiment, in the Republic of Karakalpakstan plots of land that have no economic use, and also land belonging to unprofitable and barely profitable agricultural enterprises, may be sold at auction and on a competition basis to citizens for life-long hereditary ownership.

The full text of the edict by the republic's president, Islam Karimov, on increasing the effectiveness of land use will be published in the press.

Edict Issued on Land Sales

LD2511100894 Tashkent NARODNOYE SLOVO in Russian 25 Nov 94 p1

["Edict of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Improving the Efficiency of Land Use"]

[FBIS Translated Text] With the aim of improving the efficiency of land use in the republic and increasing the interest of the population in the growth in incomes from plots of land:

1. District and town administrations are allowed to sell at auction plots of land up to 0.04 hectares in area for private house building and up to 0.06 hectares in area for private subsistence farming to citizens for permanent hereditary ownership.

2. As an experiment, in the Republic of Karakalpakstan plots of land which have no economic use and also land belonging to unprofitable and barely profitable agricultural enterprises may be sold at auction and on a competition basis to citizens for permanent hereditary

ownership. The size of the plot allocated must not exceed 5 hectares for irrigated land and 15 hectares for non-irrigated lands.

3. To supervise this and prepare proposals on the above issues for submission to district administrations, special commissions are to be created in the local administrations consisting of representatives of the State Property Committee and of land registration, water distribution, financial and taxation bodies and also representatives of the public.

4. Banks are recommended to grant citizens of the republic the necessary credits to buy plots of land at auction with a repayment term of 5 years.

5. It is established that:

land tax shall be collected at a three-fold rate on plots of land which are not used within one year after the right of permanent hereditary ownership is obtained;

plots of land which are not used within two years after the right of permanent hereditary ownership is obtained shall be confiscated with compensation paid to the former owners for their costs.

6. The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall:

adopt a resolution to ensure the implementation of this edict within one week;

prepare proposals on introducing appropriate addenda to the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan currently in force within one month.

[signed] Islam Karimov, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Tashkent

24 November 1994

Armenia

Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Comments on Ties

NC2311185694 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1615 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A meeting held by Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Grigorios Niotis with reporters was brief but it provided an opportunity to sum up the main results of the visit: Greece is ready for the broadest cooperation with Armenia. In connection with this issue, Armenia considers the historic fraternal ties between the two peoples and the interests of the neighboring states. The date of Foreign Minister Vahan Papazyan's official visit to Greece was agreed upon during the talks. He will visit in December.

Reporters wanted to know Greece's position on the Karabakh problem and if it will participate in the peacekeeping forces to be stationed in the conflict zone. Grigorios called for the speedy resolution of the conflict in the region on the basis of the CSCE Minsk Group plans. As for the participation of his country's Armed Forces in the peacekeeping mission, he said this will probably be discussed during the Armenian foreign minister's visit to Athens.

Vice President Receives Romanian Health Minister

NC2311190294 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1615 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Armenian Vice President Gagik Arutyunyan received Romanian Health Minister Dr. Iulian Mincu on 22 November. The need for bilateral cooperation on health was already noted during the Armenian president's visit to Romania.

The Armenian Presidential Press Service reported that Dr. Mincu assessed his visit to Armenia as the first step toward giving a practical direction to these ties and stressed Romania's interest in this issue.

Exchange of POW's With Azerbaijan Delayed

NC2511101294 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 1209 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan ("AZG" daily), 11/24/94—RMK [Republic of Mountainous Karabakh] commission on prisoners of war and hostages has exchanged 248 Armenian prisoners and hostages since it was created in March, 1993. 73 of them were women, children and old people, said Deputy Chairman of the commission Albert Voskanyan.

At the same time, 147 prisoners were unilaterally sent to Azerbaijan, of which 5 by means of [former chairman of the CSCE Minsk Group] Mario Rafaelli, 2 via [current

deputy chairman of the CSCE Minsk Group] Pier Anderman, 5 during the meeting of RMK and Azeri representatives, 82 via various international organizations, and 53 were sent to the corresponding commission of Azerbaijan.

Another 20 Azeri prisoners were given to the Russian Embassy in Yerevan, to be exchanged against 5 Russians sentenced to death in Azerbaijan. An Iranian officer, serving in the Azeri army was passed to the Iranian Embassy in Yerevan. Commander of the Imam Shamil national front of Dagestan Haji Makhajev received three people (2 Lezgins and 1 Avar).

According to Voskanyan, despite promises of Baku, the Azeri side continues to postpone the exchange of prisoners based on the principle "everyone against everyone". In addition to this, the Azeri Ministry of the Interior continues sending its groups to various CIS countries to capture Armenians to be exchanged with Azeri prisoners in Karabakh.

Azerbaijan Reportedly Fires on Armenian Towns

NC2311191594 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1430 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The situation on Nagorno-Karabakh's frontline is relatively peaceful. Azerbaijan has frequently disturbed the peace on its border with Armenia. Azerbaijan's military units have fired on several border areas with various types of arms for no reason at all, hoping that they will provoke the Armenian side to act in the same way. But they have failed to achieve their objective. The Armenian side has remained cautious. It has not been carried away by the provocation.

The Armenian Defense Ministry Information Service has revealed that Azerbaijan's military units fired on defense positions in Vahan and Champarak in Krasnoselskiy Rayon with various types of arms on the night of 21 November. No one was hurt on the Armenian side. The Armenian border guards did not return the fire.

Azerbaijan's officials purport to support the peace talks. But they condone the activities of their military units, activities that may worsen the situation. They create the conditions their military units need to behave in that way. Had that not been the case, Azerbaijan's military units would have taken care to heed the cease-fire agreement.

Officials in Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia have done everything they could to find a peaceful solution to the dispute. The Armenian defense forces have been carefully complying with the cease-fire agreement in Nagorno-Karabakh and on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Aid Grain Shared With Starving Georgia

LD2511115194 Tbilisi SAKINFORM in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Armenian leadership decided to share the grain given to it as humanitarian aid

with neighboring Georgia which is experiencing shortage of this vitally important product.

Armenian Ambassador to Georgia Levon Khachaturyan told a Georgian News Agency correspondent that Georgia has been allocated 3,000 [metric] tonnes of grain.

Azerbaijan

IMF Postpones Signing Credit Agreement

LD2411210794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1923 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Azerbaijan have postponed signing a credit agreement worth \$160 million from November to January 1995. State Economic Policy Advisor Vakhid Akhundov said Thursday [24 November] that the step was caused by the republic's failure so far to comply with the main IMF requirements.

In an interview with the Financial Information Agency, he said that the IMF insisted on reducing the budget deficit in 1994 and stabilizing the national monetary unit. However, the officially set rate of the Azerbaijani manat has fallen from 950 to 3,000 per one U.S. dollar since August. The budget deficit, planned to be kept down to 7.5% of GDP, has risen to 20% of GDP by late November.

According to Akhundov, the manat's drop was caused by the National Bank's mass crediting of agriculture, oil production and machine-building. Sources in the government estimated the credits at 60 billion manats (\$63.1 million at the bank's August rate).

Akhundov pointed out that IMF experts had come to the republic to look into the economic situation and jointly prepare a memorandum on Azerbaijan's cooperation with the IMF. He described the requirements contained in the memorandum as "rather strict." The budget deficit is to be brought down to 5-7% of GDP in the beginning of reforms and 1-2% of GDP when the systemic transformation will be over.

IMF experts also recommend to make the National Bank's refinancing rate dependent on the inflation rate. (At present, the bank's annual refinancing rate is 150%, while the inflation rate has reached 910% over the first ten months of 1994).

If IMF conditions are met, Azerbaijan will be granted a systemic transformation facility worth \$160 million. In addition, the IMF credit may be followed by another one worth over \$400 million from the World Bank.

Appeal to World Community Over Plight of Refugees

LD2411222994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1719 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sevindsh Abdullayeva, Viktor Shulman]

[FBIS Translated Text] Baku, 24 Nov—Despite its promises, the world community is not paying due attention to the plight of more than 1 million Azerbaijani refugees, many of whom have been living in tents and shelters in the open steppe in the heart of the republic for a second year running, after a considerable part of Azerbaijan's territory was occupied. President of Azerbaijan Geydar Aliyev said this today at the closing session of an international conference on refugee legislation, human rights, and migration.

Speaking to the participants in the forum from 10 countries and 34 international organizations, the Azerbaijani leader said that he intended to raise this question once again with the UN High Commission for Refugees. The refugee issue needs to be resolved as quickly as possible, Aliyev said, since no other conflict zone in the world has produced such depressing statistics on the people who have lost their homes. Every seventh resident of Azerbaijan has now become a refugee, he said. According to the president, the fact that they are refugees in their own country adds to the tragedy.

Aliyev said that he was going to appeal to other major international organizations and political leaders of influential countries to help the republic resolve the refugee issue. The civilized world can and must assist Azerbaijan in getting over this tragedy and to protect the rights of the people living there, he said.

Baku Conference on Human Rights, Refugees Concludes

NC2511063594 Baku TURAN in English 1403 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku, November 24 (TURAN)—A conference for the problems of refugees, human rights and migration, organized by the Parliament of Azerbaijan and Azeri office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, has finished its work today. A deputy of the European Regional Department of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Hashim Utkan, addressed at the conference. He noted the necessity of strengthening the activity of the humanitarian organizations in Azerbaijan. "Azerbaijan should enter the list of the countries, facing the hard humanitarian crisis," said Utkan.

Geydar Aliyev, participating at the conference thanked the organizers of the forum for their attention and care to the Azeri refugees. According to Aliyev, holding the conference in Azerbaijan witnesses that the UN understands the difficulties of humanitarian situation in the country. "Railway blockade of Azerbaijan and the number of refugees, exceeding one million, show the dramatic humanitarian situation in the country," noted the president. He expressed a hope that the conference will promote the increase of humanitarian aid to Azeri refugees.

Concerning the problem of refugees from Armenia and other regions, Aliyev stressed that if the world community and international organisations found the right

solution of the problem of return of refugees to their native countries, the refugees from Armenia would certainly return to their home lands, as well as the refugees displaced 50 years ago from Georgia and the Turks-meshetins [the Meskhetian Turks], living presently in Azerbaijan. After the forum a press-conference for journalists took place.

Memorandum Signed With Norway on Oil, Gas Extraction

LD2411110294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0625 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Azerbaijani government and the Norwegian Industry and Energy Ministry signed a memorandum on cooperation in the sphere of extracting and processing oil and gas on November 22.

Azerbaijani acting Premier Fuat Kuliyev signed the memorandum for Azerbaijan and Norwegian First Deputy Industry and Energy Minister Gunnar Murvang for Norway.

Murvang heads the Norwegian delegation which arrived in Baku on November 21. The delegation includes officials of the Norwegian Industry and Energy Ministry and President of the Statoil Company Harold Norving.

The Petroleum Information Agency learned that the Statoil president and First Vice President of the Azerbaijani State Oil Company Sayad Ibragimov had signed an agreement on cooperation in the sphere of extracting oil and gas during the visit of the Norwegian delegation to Baku. The agreement is expected to precede a plan for long-time cooperation. The agreement provides for exchanging experience in the sphere of environmental protection and cooperation for preparing personnel.

Statoil takes part in the international consortium for developing the Azerbaijani oil deposits in the Caspian Sea and in the British Petroleum/Statoil alliance.

Experts said Azerbaijan had been recently attentively examining the Norwegian legislation in the sphere of extracting and processing oil and gas. (In 1963 Norway declared sovereignty over its continental shelf).

The Azerbaijani parliament is now examining the Norwegian oil legislation some principles of which could be used for making an Azerbaijani law on oil. Azerbaijan planned to adopt the law on oil by the end of this year. However, experts said that it would take several months more for working out the document.

Foreign Minister Discusses Oil With Norwegian Delegation

NC2311141494 Baku TURAN in English 0815 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku (November 23) TURAN—Yesterday Azeri Foreign Minister, Gasan Gasanov, received Norwegian delegation headed by first

Vice-Minister of Industry and Energetic of Norway, Gyuntar Murvang. The delegation also included Vice-President of Statoil oil company Larsen, famous traveler and scientist, Tur Hayerdal, and his wife.

Gasan Gasanov mentioned that having signed the oil contract with Western consortium, Azerbaijan made a decisive step towards market economy and showed its desire to strengthen ties with Western democratic states. "Azerbaijan intends to strengthen political as well as economic links with the consortium-member states", Gasan Gasanov added. In this connection he stressed the importance of conclusion of political agreements between Norway and Azerbaijan and opening of Norway's Embassy in Baku.

Mr Murvang said that economic cooperation between Norway and Azerbaijan is the basis for expanding of political ties. He also mentioned that Norwegian Government is interested in extending of manylateral ties with Azerbaijan.

"I am a reliable friend of Azerbaijan and with great pleasure I accepted the offer to take part in Norwegian delegation", Tur Hayerdal said. He mentioned that he arrived in Baku hoping that close relations between two countries will be established. Tur Hayerdal said that Norwegians sympathize with Azeri nation and he himself hopes that appropriate political contract between two countries will be concluded and Norwegian Embassy will be opened in Baku.

Diplomatic Relations With Afghanistan Established

NC2311194994 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Azerbaijan and Afghanistan established diplomatic relations on 16 November, the Azerbaijani Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Center reported.

Aliyev, Ter-Petrosyan To Meet in Moscow Next Week

LD2411175294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1538 GMT 24 Nov 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature; compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy, and edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The meeting between Azeri President Geydar Aliyev and his Armenian counterpart Levon Ter-Petrosyan on the Karabakh settlement, with the mediation of Russian President Yeltsin, is expected to take place in Moscow in the middle of next week, a senior source in Baku told Interfax. He said that the parties concerned will meet before the CSE summit to be held in Budapest on December 5-6.

It is so far unknown, said the source, whether the two presidents will sign documents, though, he said, they are

being drafted. The main problem to be discussed in Moscow is the problem of the towns of Shusha and Lachin. Baku insists on their liberation from Armenian units.

Armenia claims that it cannot agree to this since Shusha is situated on the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh and the only road connecting Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia passes across Lachin.

The Russian president's special envoy for Nagorno-Karabakh, Vladimir Kazimirov, voiced hope in an interview with Interfax that the forthcoming meeting of the three presidents will help "progress" in the work over the Russia-proposed draft comprehensive political agreement on the Karabakh settlement.

Russia is in favor of sending peace-keepers in Nagorno-Karabakh only if they help concluding agreements on cessation of the armed conflict when it is agreed upon by the conflicting sides, said Kazimirov.

However, first it is necessary to work out international and legal, and organizing and technical aspects of the possible operation. According to the Russian diplomat, those problems should not be solved in haste. This is the wrong region for experimenting, he said.

The peace-keeping operation cannot be a goal in itself, said Kazimirov. It should help concluding a political agreement between the conflicting sides. He said that the peace-keeping operation may, for its part, create more favorable conditions for new agreements and a comprehensive settlement.

Such Russia's position, said Kazimirov, was outlined in Budapest November 18 at the meeting of the CSCE Senior Officials Committee, which is studying the possibility of a peace-keeping operation. "A full-scale many-component operation is a principally new form of peace-keeping for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe," he said.

Kazimirov spoke against attempts to oppose Russia and the CSCE in the Karabakh settlement. We are for coordination and harmonization of the efforts, he said. The diplomat expressed regret that "some countries are trying to press Russia, the CIS in the settlement process, though major progress, beginning from the six-month-long ceasefire, was achieved thanks to their mediatory efforts". Kazimirov did not rule out that later mediatory efforts of Russia, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the CSCE will be "more integrated." IF Note: The aide of the Nagorno-Karabakh Foreign Minister Manvell Sarkisyan told Interfax that Ter-Petrosyan is likely to insist on participation in the forthcoming talks of chairman of the Karabakh Defense Committee Robert Kocharyan who did not yet receive official invitation. Meanwhile, observers in Stepanakert believe that the talks in Moscow between the leaders of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Russia are "merely the attachment of importance to the Russian peace-keeping initiative against the background of the CSCE intensified efforts."

Georgia

Greek Government Delegation To Meet Dignitaries

NC2311184094 Yerevan SNARK in English 1509 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tbilisi, November 23 (SNARK)—A Greek governmental delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Grigorios Niotis arrived in Tbilisi today.

Grigorios Niotis is to meet the President Eduard Shevardnadze and other officials, as well as Catholic and Patriarch of All Georgia, Ilia the Second.

During the forthcoming meetings, the parties will discuss the perspectives of cooperation development of the two states, as well as improvement of life conditions of multi-thousand Greek community in Georgia, SNARK correspondent was told in the press-centre of Georgian government.

Niotis Meets Shevardnadze

NC2511083994 Yerevan SNARK in English 1225 GMT 25 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tbilisi, November 24 (SNARK)—Today a Head of Georgian Government Eduard Shevardnadze has received Deputy Minister of Greek Foreign Affairs Grigorios Niotis [who] arrived in Tbilisi on November 23.

SNARK reporter was informed in a Presidential Press Secretariat, the two main issues were in a focus of attention of the meeting: improvement of cooperation between two countries and improvement of Greek diaspora's life conditions in Georgia.

The very day Deputy Head of Foreign Policy Department of Greece met with All Georgian Catholic-Patriarch Ilia-II.

Greece Allots \$50 Million Loan

LD2411180494 Tbilisi CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY in Russian 1600 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Tbilisi [no dateline as received]—A Greek delegation, currently on an official working visit to Georgia, was received by Georgian Head of State Eduard Shevardnadze today. The delegation is led by the Deputy Greek Foreign Minister Grigoris Niotis.

The expansion and strengthening of relations between the two countries were the subjects discussed at the meeting. It was indicated that Greece had already appointed its ambassador to Georgia, and he will start his work in the very near future.

According to the visitors, practical steps have been planned to implement projects of a comprehensive

Graeco-Georgian cooperation worked up during the latest visit of Georgian Foreign Minister Aleksandre Chikvaide to Greece.

The Greek visitors informed Mr. Shevardnadze that the government of Greece had allotted a loan of \$50 million to Georgia.

PRAVDA Version of Abkhaz Peace Talks Disputed

LD251113894 Tbilisi SAKINFORM in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] In connection with the article printed in the 24 November edition of PRAVDA, saying that the Georgian and Abkhaz sides at the Geneva talks on the settlement of the Abkhaz conflict verbally approved the draft envisaging the federal arrangement of Georgia, the press service of the head of state has released a statement which in particular says that there can be no question of any approval. The Georgian delegation stated clearly that only certain paragraphs could be discussed.

Ceding Territory in Ethnic Conflicts Ruled Out

LD2411191694 Tbilisi CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY in Russian 1600 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Tbilisi [no dateline as received]—A meeting of the country's military bodies marking St. George's Day has been held in Tbilisi. Addressing the meeting, Georgian Head of State Eduard Shevardnadze emphasized the necessity for and importance of forming an efficient Georgian Army. Although Shevardnadze was positive that ethnic conflicts in Georgia had to be settled only by peaceful means, he said it did not mean that the Georgian people would cede an inch of its land to anyone.

Preparations For War With Abkhazia Urged

LD2411164294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1421 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A group of opposition deputies in the Georgian parliament has demanded that the republic's authorities stop talks with the Abkhazian leadership and start preparing for war with Abkhazia.

They advanced the demand after the speech in parliament on Thursday [24 November] by chief Georgian negotiator at the Geneva talks on Abkhazia, Djaba Ioseliani, who informed deputies about the results of last week's round of talks.

Djaba Ioseliani said about the need to continue the talks, since, he said, the achievement of the settlement depends only on Russia, against which Georgia is unable to wage a war.

He called on the United Nations and Russia to use "special measures for influencing separatists," who, at the talks in Geneva, "rejected all variants concerning the Abkhazian political status."

Ioseliani described as "absurd" and "provocative" the demands by certain members of the opposition about the need to begin preparations for war with Abkhazia.

Mobile Police Will Shoot to Kill in New Crackdown

MK2411123094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 24 Nov 94 p 3

[NEGA report in the "Georgia" column]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Georgia Ministry of Internal Affairs is creating mobile armed police groups. This was announced by republic Internal Affairs Minister Shota Kviraya. This decision was made following increased attacks on policemen. The groups will operate around the clock. According to a release from the Georgia Ministry of Internal Affairs Press Center, persons offering armed resistance will be shot on the spot. The press center release also said that over the last one and a half years more than 200 police were killed in the line of duty. The police have neutralized more than 1,000 armed gangs and detained over 3,000 criminals.

Budget Ratified for Fourth Quarter of 1994

AU251112794 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 16 Nov 94 p 1

["Decree of the Georgian Parliament on Ratification of the Republic of Georgia Republican Budget for the Fourth Quarter of 1994"; issued in Tbilisi on 28 October]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Georgian Parliament decrees:

1. To ratify the Republic of Georgia republican budget for the fourth quarter of 1994.
2. To entrust the Republic of Georgia Cabinet of Ministers to present:
 - a) A financial report on the first nine months of 1994 and the draft budget for next year by 10 December of this year and a report on the fulfillment of the budget for the fourth quarter of 1994 by 20 February 1995;
 - b) A plan for the reform of executive structures of power, which will lay the basis for the implementation of economic reform and the establishment of order in the country—by 15 November of this year.
3. In the event that the dates in Point Two are not adhered to, to raise the question of confidence in the Cabinet of Ministers at a session of Parliament within seven days.

4. To entrust the Parliament financial and budget commission, the commission on economic questions, and the legal commission to present by 20 November of this year a draft on changes to the Law "on the Budget System and Rights" in order to avoid various interpretations of this or that provision in the law.

5. To prohibit the Georgian National Bank from issuing credits without permission from Parliament.

[signed] Vakhtang Rcheulishvili, deputy speaker of the Georgian Parliament.

'Tough' Power Supply Restrictions Introduced

*NC2311184194 Yerevan SNARK in English 0930 GMT
23 Nov 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tbilisi, 23 November (SNARK)—With each new day the energy crisis is aggravated in Georgia. A tough schedule of power supply to the capital population has been established, two hours in the morning and two in the evening. "Gruzenargo" department spokesman told BUSINESS-SNARK.

The critical situation here is known to be due to a halt of Turkmenian gas supply to Georgia, which according to the well-informed sources is more likely caused by high indebtedness for gas of Tbilisi to Ashgabat, rather than pipeline damage.

Industry, Food Situation Near Catastrophe

*LD2311175394 Moscow NTV in Russian 1600 GMT
23 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Georgian authorities have stated that the republic's industry has practically grounded to a halt due to shortages of the electric energy. Bread shortages are especially critical. According to Eduard Shevardnadze, the head of state, Tbilisi bakeries produce 100 tonnes less of bread than before. The authorities say that under these circumstances they cannot provide appropriate assistance to the refugees who return to Abkhazia. Their situation is especially difficult. This problem is being discussed at the Georgian-Abkhazian talks in Sochi today.

Estonia

Prime Minister Returns From Crime Conference

WS2511103194 Tallinn ETA in English 0820 GMT
25 Nov 94

[From 25 Nov EESTI SONUMID, PAEVALEHT p.1, 3;
"News Bulletin" No. 230/94]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Prime Minister Andres Tarand arrived back from a three day conference on fighting organized crime, held in Naples by United Nations.

The conference had approved a political declaration and planned activities for fighting organized crime, especially exchanging information and developing regional cooperation. Prime Minister admitted that Estonia is most interested in the cooperation of East-West Europe as there are few crime lines that do not touch Estonia, traffic of stolen cars being among the biggest problems, but there have also been some attempts to smuggle radioactive materials. These problems were the reasons for Tarand's meetings at the conference—with Finnish Interior Minister Mauri Pekkarinen on cooperation and training the specialists and with Russian Interior Minister Viktor Yerin on handing over criminal offenders and agreements, following the one already signed between Estonia and Russia on providing legal advice.

The meeting with the Italian interior minister was "most fertile of them" in Tarand's opinion, "the important message for Estonia being the clear support of Italy to the progress by Estonia and other Baltic countries towards the European Union."

Premier Met With Russian, Other Ministers

LD2411144694 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in
Estonian 1000 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Prime Minister Andres Tarand returned from Naples where a UN-organized conference discussed the fight against organized crime. Here is Erik Samel with the details:

[Samel] [Passage omitted] Andres Tarand had meetings with the interior ministers of Russia, Finland, and Italy in Naples.

[Begin Tarand recording] With the Russian interior minister we first touched on those very issues to do with the agreements between interior ministries, on the extradition of criminals, which should now follow on from the [Estonian-Russian] agreement on legal assistance. Other issues were also discussed, but in general terms, to do with our relations and the population's movements [across the border] and all that, but without any concrete outcome because that was only an exchange of opinion as opposed to the discussion about crime.

With the Finnish interior minister we discussed primarily our further cooperation which is consistently on offer from the Finnish side, and with greater frequency,

which is very good for us. It is to do first and foremost with information exchange but also with training and to a degree also the issue of the Kurds [illegal Kurdish immigrants in Estonia] which we have acquired. It is first of all up to Estonia itself to resolve this issue and tonight the government will discuss it. [end recording]

The prime minister described his meeting with the Italian interior minister as most fruitful.

[Begin Tarand recording] The most important message for Estonia here was—somewhat improvised though our discussion was—that Italy expressed clear support to Estonia and the other Baltic states moving closer to the European Union. It is thought here that the Mediterranean countries may be critical but Italy's position is wholly positive. [end recording]

Andres Tarand also briefly evaluated Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit yesterday to the temporary [as heard] Estonian-Russian control line.

[Begin Tarand recording] There is a completely clear policy in Russia on the border issue and evidently we will have to regulate matters, not through clear and obviously demonstrative measures but rather through matter-of-fact talks. [end recording]

Foreign Ministry Statement on Yeltsin's Border Visit

LD2311153694 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in
Estonian 1500 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit today to a new Russian border post is an example of Russia's policy of unilateral steps on the border issue, the Estonian Foreign Ministry concludes. The Foreign Ministry has just issued a statement which says that President Yeltsin's visit is evidently linked to Russian domestic politics. The statement says that the Russian president's visit to the newly completed border post along the Estonian-Russian control line again draws attention to the need to resolve the Estonian-Russian border issue under international law.

The Foreign Ministry states that Estonia has received no reply to its request for talks which were called for by both the prime minister and by deputies. It is also noted that Estonia has not received an adequate reply to its initiative to resolve the issue with the mediation of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, or any other international organization or country. The Foreign Ministry promises to study all statements made today by the Russian Federation's president in detail and calls for an end to the Russian policy of unilateral actions.

Luik: Russia Unwilling To Settle Dispute

LD2311224494 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian
2100 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] During his visit to Riga on Wednesday [23 November], Estonian Foreign Minister

Juri Luik stated that Russian President Yeltsin's visit to the Estonian-Russian border and his statements about Russia's unwillingness to return a centimeter of the borderland territory to the Estonians does not promote the normalization of the two countries' relations, and demonstrates Russia's unwillingness to jointly settle the border dispute. Luik noted that Estonia is ready to settle this matter with the mediation of international institutions, and in a civilized way, as in its foreign policy, as with the world's international organizations, it does not recognize the policy of unilaterally settling border issues.

Kozyrev: Border 'Will Remain Unchanged'

WS2311143694 Tallinn BNS in English 1300 GMT 23 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pskov, Russia, Nov 23, BNS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev who accompanied President Boris Yeltsin during his inspection tour on the border with Estonia today criticized harshly Estonia's bid for establishing the line defined in the Tartu Peace Treaty of 1920 as the border between the two states.

"The present Russian-Estonian border will remain unchanged and neighboring states must stop talking about territorial claims," the Russian foreign minister told BNS. Kozyrev maintained that the Russian-Estonian border was firmly fixed.

"The sooner our neighbors realize that their territorial claims are baseless, the sooner it will be possible to mark down the border properly," he said.

In Kozyrev's words, Russia is seeking, not tensions caused by the border issue, but goodneighborly relations that would "help protect Estonia, Latvia, and Russia against smugglers, terrorists, and drug traffickers." The Russian foreign minister said the president's visit to the frontier was intended to promote "strengthening of the Estonian-Russian border."

Russia Interested in Privatized Metal Processing Plant

WS2511110094 Tallinn ETA in English 0820 GMT 25 Nov 94

[From 25 Nov ARIPAEV p. 5; "News Bulletin" No. 230/94]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian state structures have expressed their interest in the privatization of the Sililamae metal processing plant "Silmet". The plant is producing rare metals and alloys and this year's turnover is estimated to reach 200 million kroons. The production could be of considerable interest to the Russian military industry, but the Estonian Government has decided that the plant may not become Russian property.

Economy Minister Toivo Jurgenson explained that the Estonian state will remain a majority shareholder of the plant. A new administrative board was appointed to the

plant and it is currently looking for a foreign partner for the planned privatization. The plant has 70 million kroons liabilities and the activities of the former management have led to an investigation.

Tallinn Reports Landing of Hijacked Russian Aircraft

LD2411113194 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1100 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] At 1227, a Russian TU-134 aircraft landed at Tallinn airport, having been hijacked on its way from Syktyvkar to St. Petersburg and Minsk. There are 61 passengers on board the plane and, according to preliminary information, three terrorists. According to what is known, the aircraft crew was threatened with a bomb-like object and told to fly either to Amsterdam or Denmark. [passage omitted]

The Russian authorities were informed of the hijacking at 1115 Estonian time, and half an hour previously the hijackers had presented their demands to the pilots. According to what the pilots say, there is a smell of acetone and petrol in the passenger cabin.

The Estonian police, ambulances, the special K commando unit, and rescue service units have arrived at Tallinn airport. Also, riflemen of the rapid reaction regiment for domestic purposes have been brought to the airport. The airport remains closed for technical reasons until 1300. This has been reported by the BALTIC NEWS SERVICE.

Hijackers Demand Flight to Denmark

LD2411123094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1215 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Nechayev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 24 TASS—The TU-134 airliner with 70 people aboard was supposedly hijacked by three men, the Estonian Transport Department told ITAR-TASS on Thursday [24 November]. It is not known so far whether they are armed. However, according to the department spokesman, one of them has "an attache case with a queer content".

The hijackers put forth three demands: refuelling, replacement of the flight navigator and flight for Denmark. If their demands are met, they promised to release all passengers, the department spokesman noted, adding that talks are now being conducted with the hijackers "at the top level". The plane remains at the Tallinn airport.

Refuelling has not been made as yet. According to the Tallinn airport security service, the pilots asked to bring a bus to the plane to evacuate the passengers.

However, the transport department spokesman said that no passengers were released for the time being. He added

that the hijackers demand a replacement of only one crew member. "He should be a navigator of the Estonia Air Company," he said.

Russian Antiterrorist Units To Arrive

LD2411123294 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1200 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Russian aircraft which was flying on the Syktyvkar-St. Petersburg-Minsk route and was hijacked en route is standing in a far corner of Tallinn airport, at parking place no. 32, ETA reports. [passage omitted]

According to the press service of the Russian Federal Counterintelligence Service, the Russian and Estonian authorities have agreed that Russian special antiterrorist units will arrive in Tallinn shortly to deal with the hijackers. Over the past few years those special units have repeatedly succeeded in disarming terrorists who had hijacked aircraft, helicopters, and other vehicles.

Estonia in Charge of Situation

LD2411130594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1232 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Yuriy Kozlov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 24 November—The Estonian authorities did not ask Russia to send the special "Alpha" anti-terrorism sub-unit to disarm the hijackers of the Russian plane. A high-ranking official of the Russian Federation Ministry of Foreign Affairs told an ITAR-TASS correspondent today that the Estonian authorities had assumed full responsibility for carrying out the whole range of appropriate measures to ensure the passengers' safety.

The Russian foreign affairs establishment is closely following the situation at the Tallinn airport and is in continuous communication with Estonian colleagues via its embassy in Tallinn.

Hijackers Release Passengers

LD2411124694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1230 GMT 24 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Palagichev]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Moscow, 24 November—The hijackers of the Tu-134 aircraft have started releasing all 61 passengers after the Estonian authorities agreed to meet their demands.

"All the passengers are now leaving the aircraft", ITAR-TASS was told on the telephone by a spokesman for Tallinn airport. Only the first crew now remains on board. Refueling will take place once all the passengers are released, he added. [quotation marks as received] [passage omitted]

Two Hijackers Surrender

LD2411132994 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1300 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The terrorists have freed all the passengers and two crew members at Tallinn airport where the hijacked Russian plane now stands. Also, two terrorists have given themselves up to the authorities. There are still seven crew members and one terrorist on board the plane. [passage omitted]

Just before the weather forecast we will give you the latest update from Tallinn airport. Even though the passengers have been freed, talks at the airport continue with the terrorist who hijacked the aircraft and is still on board. In fact, it is not finally clear whether the other two terrorists who came out did so in order to surrender or in order to hold talks. We will tell you about this in our next news bulletins.

Security Search on Aircraft

LD2411151294 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1500 GMT 24 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] First, about the events at Tallinn airport. The terrorist who hijacked a Russian plane heading for Tallinn [as heard] today surrendered to the police. Security units are now searching the aircraft to locate the alleged explosive. According to preliminary information, the airport will reopen within about an hour. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister: Hijacking Resolution Affirms Security

WS2511094594 Tallinn ETA in English 1848 GMT 24 Nov 94

["News Release"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The fact that Estonian special services resolved the hijacking of the Russian plane that was forced to land in Tallinn on Thursday [24 November], testifies to the fact that Estonia is not a terrorist's transit place, Estonian Foreign Minister Juri Luik commented on the successful resolution of the hijacking at Tallinn Airport. [passage omitted]

"The Estonian special services resolved the hijacking of the passenger aircraft in a professional manner. This fact reinforces the important point that Estonia is not a terrorist's transit place," Luik said according to Foreign Ministry's press service.

"I hope that this message is understandable to all those who would come to Estonia with bad intentions," Luik stressed.

The Estonian Government maintains the position that it does not give in to or support terrorist demands, Foreign Ministry stated.

Russian Envoy Grateful For Hijack Handling*LD2411174194 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1700 GMT 24 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Russia's Ambassador to Estonia Aleksandr Trofimov thanked Foreign Minister Juri Luik by telephone once the terrorist who had hijacked a Russian plane had surrendered at Tallinn Airport. Luik told the Baltic News Service that Trofimov thanked Estonia for its precise and swift action in arresting the terrorist and freeing the hostages.

The Estonian Foreign Ministry assumes that Russia will be requesting the extradition of the terrorist and his alleged accomplices.

Latvia**Premier Assesses Visit to Sweden***LD2311163194 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1401 GMT 23 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Maris Gailis returned to Riga today from his first foreign visit in Sweden. There Maris Gailis met with Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson, former prime minister Carl Bildt, and people from the business world, and discussed security issues in both Sweden and Latvia with officials from security institutions.

Maris Gailis told reporters at the airport about the topics at the most important talks:

[Begin Gailis recording] For an hour and a half we discussed various things with Carlsson and of course the main thing was security and the Baltic states', Latvia's, and also Sweden's integration into Europe. We know that the referendum ended successfully, successfully for those who believe that Sweden must be a member of the European Union. Sweden will be a member of the European Union from 1 January. We (?also) discussed the possibility of Sweden helping Latvia in the integration process and there are possibilities of all kinds and promises.

Of course they are very interested in our neighborly relations with Russia and that was also a subject for talks.

One of the government priorities is internal security and it undoubtedly concerns the close neighbor state, Sweden, because we know about the illegal immigration, also about organized crime in Sweden. We talked about cooperation between the police and also their technical and financial assistance to our police, our system of prisons, assistance in creating the immigration police.

And in the interests of stability the Swedes are undoubtedly very interested, together with other world countries and international organizations, in assisting us with the language teaching program for our noncitizens, that is, in the framework of naturalization.

We noted with satisfaction the fact of the recent opening of Riga School of Economics and the Swedes will be ready to find ways to help create another school—the law school. [end recording]

A new idea of what should be done with the Skrunda radar base has appeared in Latvia. At today's news conference the prime minister also answered a reporter's questions about Maris Gailis's ideas about the fate of the new building at the Skrunda radar station: Should this building be demolished or used differently?

[Begin Gailis recording] I think that the Skrunda radar base must be demolished. That is related to international agreements. It is also related to the assistance worth many millions of dollars which comes from various countries—from Sweden as well, by the way. The transfer has not yet been effected due to all kinds of technical issues, and the legal issue had not been brought to order. Now that has been done, accounts have been opened, the head of the fund has been approved, and they promised to transfer the money.

But we all know that it is in the interests of security to demolish the new buildings at the Skrunda radar facility, because if they stay there, then if there is some kind of political change the temptation may occur to finish the facility which has been started. In the end, it is a political decision. Maybe someone does not like it, but what can be done? It is never possible to achieve full consensus on these issues. [end recording]

That is what Prime Minister Maris Gailis said today on his return from Sweden.

Baltic Foreign Ministers Statement on EU, Borders*LD2311194094 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1800 GMT 23 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The foreign ministers of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia welcome the decision of the Council on General Affairs [as heard] of the European Union [EU] to adopt a mandate project for talks with the Baltic countries. In their joint statement, signed today by the Baltic foreign ministers after their talks in Riga, they express the conviction that this mandate will be confirmed by the session of the Council, to be held on 28th and 29th November in Luxembourg, and this will be the opportunity for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania to start even this year on the first round of talks with the European Commission.

The three Baltic foreign ministers, in the names of their governments, also signed an agreement on cooperation in issues of guarding state borders. The agreement provides for the creation of a data bank on issues concerning the guarding the countries' borders. Each of the three Baltic countries intends to observe the interests of the other countries in conducting border checks of transport of people, cargoes, and passengers. A common mechanism for border checks will be worked out, to strengthen

the fight against illegal immigration, contraband, terrorism, and the conveyance of illegal narcotics and (?dangerous) substances.

Spokesman Rebuts Yeltsin Statement on 'Forced Settlers'

*WS2511095694 Tallinn BNS in English 1600 GMT
24 Nov 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Riga, Nov 24, BNS—All persons who leave Latvia for Russia do that voluntarily and not as a result of pressure, Latvian Foreign Ministry spokesman Roberts Mucins voiced his ministry's stance on the issue Thursday [24 November].

Mucins made the comment in view of statements by Russian President Boris Yeltsin during his trip to the Pskov region Wednesday.

Yeltsin met with "forced settlers" from Latvia at the Dubrov village near Pskov and told them that Russia intended to demand Latvian help in building homes for these people, according to the RIA news agency.

Latvia has not observed the existence of "forced settlers," or refugees, Mucins said.

Similar statements by the Russian president could be construed as "use of foreign political factors in the settlement of interior problems," said Mucins.

Commenting on the tough Russian commitment not to give away "a single centimeter" of its land, Mucins said Latvia had no territorial claims to Russia.

Regarding the Abrene district, part of which was overtaken by Russia and renamed Pitalovo in 1944, Latvia wants the rights of former owners restored, easy frontier crossing rules for frontier zone residents introduced and other routine problems settled, Mucins said.

Accords Ratified on Russian Army Withdrawal

*LD2411113794 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian
1100 GMT 24 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Saeima [parliament] today ratified the Russian-Latvian agreements on army withdrawal and an interstate agreement on the protection of rights of migrants. After the exchange of ratification papers with Russia, the agreements will be sent to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe for experts of that organization to be able to begin the monitoring of the dismantling and work of the Skrunda radar system. After the ratification of the Russian-Latvian agreements, Latvia now has the legal basis to begin expelling officers who remain here illegally after

January 1992 [Russian officers dismissed from service on Latvian territory after 28 January 1992 and still remaining in Latvia].

As is known, the two agreements have also been ratified by the Russian parliament.

Saeima Passes Law on State Defense

*LD2411140594 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian
1100 GMT 24 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Saeima passed a law today on state defense. The law brings to order the work of elements of the Latvian armed forces, subordinating the Civil Defense and the defense forces to the commander of the national armed forces who is, in turn, subordinate to the defense minister.

The Saeima also amended the laws on the defense forces and the Civil Defense, corresponding to the law passed.

Defense Minister Janis Trapans stressed that the new law is one of the cornerstones of the future security of the Baltics and their further integration into the European security structures. Within the next three-four months the Defense Ministry will draft a concept of state security which will be an introduction to the drafting of a military doctrine.

Lithuania

Norway Supports Lithuania's Admission to EU

*LD2411115494 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International
Service in Lithuanian 2200 GMT 23 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Norway supports Lithuania's aspirations to join the European Union [EU], said Norway's Deputy Foreign Minister Sverre Bjoerke on arrival in Vilnius Wednesday [23 November]. The guest also noted that in solving the Kaliningrad issues with Russia, Norway urges Lithuania to seek a compromise.

According to Sverre Bjoerke, Norway will never support efforts to isolate Russia from the European processes. She added that the Europe's stability depends on how the European countries cooperate with Russia.

According to Justas Paleckis, presidential adviser on foreign policy, the view of the Norwegian deputy foreign minister coincides with the view of Danish Foreign Minister Niels Petersen on the Kaliningrad and transit problems. Niels Petersen stated during his visit to Vilnius that Lithuania and Russia should sign an agreement on military transit to Kaliningrad through the territory of Lithuania.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be

provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735, or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.